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New Floor Leader for Council

A Strange Political Alliance

Dr. Gour Wants a Party Branch in Madras

Local Nationalists in a Quandary

(From our Political Correspondent)

Madras, Feb. 22.

"The Sunday Observer" is well received; it has begun well and under very good auspices. It is hailed for more reasons than one. When we are on the eve of momentous changes being introduced for the political and constitutional progress of India, when misrepresentations of a malignant nature seem to be the order of the day in certain interested quarters, when the political sanity of a group or section is at a low ebb, when one's worth is sought to be assessed for the loudest noise that one makes by barking, the need for journals of the type of the "Sunday Observer," whose main objective is to purge public life, at any rate in this province, of all its impurities, thus making for sound and sane development in all branches of life of the nation, can never be disputed by the right-minded. The need for educating the voters of the province on right lines will hereafter be felt greater than ever before; and it is the opinion widely held among the public that the "Sunday Observer" will take a dispassionate view of things and guide and lead the public aright, refuting in the most unequivocal terms, misrepresentations and malignant and destructive criticisms couched in the most offending and vituperative language, and exposing the fallacies and hypocrisies of those who, conveniently enough, masquerade in the name of nationalism and whose sustenance is in the exploitation of the ill-informed. This is the task which everyone expects that the "Sunday Observer" will place before itself.

* * * *

With this prelude, I shall give the reader some tips and an insight into what is taking place in our midst. The Legislative Council session is fast approaching; and gossip-mongers are not found wanting who indulge in their favourite pastime of setting up scares of a very sensational character. We will, no doubt, hear during the Council session that events of a revolutionary nature will take place in the various parties. We will, indeed, be told that attempts will be made to 'overthrow' the Ministry; and surely, no stone will be left unturned by those who have never been friendly towards the Ministry, or to make it clearer, whose jealous eyes are on the Treasury Bench, to discredit the party in power. The Justice Party has, thanks to its sane and steady policy, survived all these attacks, and if the past is any guide for its future, it will nail to the counter the mischievous propaganda of its destructive critics.

* * * *

It was only the other day that I saw a paragraph published in "The New Times" that the ex-Chief Minister is to succeed the late Diwan Bahadur Arogiaswami Mudaliar as the Floor Leader of the Opposition. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Naidu, with whose downfall I sympathise very much, formed a group of his own and styled it as 'The Justice Democratic Group.' The group was formed at a particularly inauspicious time; for it began with a strength of about 24, and the number fell down like the ripe leaves of a jack tree, to barely a dozen. It has lost thus its strength and now Mr. Naidu finds it 'infra dig' to lead such a small section. Naturally, there comes another ex-Chief Minister with a magnanimous offer of the Floor Leadership of the Opposition whose Leader he claims to be. Evidently, Mr. Naidu and his group want to merge in the Opposition. But alas! even then the Opposition can remain in the Council only for opposition sake, for after all, the strength of these two put together would be roughly 48. However, Dr. Subbaroyan is to be congratulated on winning to his side "after strenuous efforts" another ex-Chief Minister; and now probably he can afford to enjoy his leisure hours as he chooses, leaving his duties as Leader to his would-be-trusted lieutenant, Mr. Naidu. I must thank the two ex-Chief Ministers for this collusion, because their joint whipping may infuse into the leaders of the Justice Party keener enthusiasm and more sustained effort to advance the cause of the party and thus marshall all its forces together to prepare for the coming fight. Let us, however, watch with baited breath the developments in the Council.

* * * *

The temple-entry question is taking surprising turns. Pandit Malaviya has backed out of the arena at the crucial hour, perhaps so as to permit him, at this old age, to concentrate all his thoughts in prayers unto Him to Whom ultimately we have all to go. I am not the least surprised at his sudden change, for when one is used to thinking in one particular way from his boyhood, one cannot deviate from that course of thought. 'Leaders' of the Indian National Congress wanted the world to believe that they were the best friends of the down-trodden and all the rest only lip sympathisers, and even enemies to their progress. In course of time, there will be more Leaders to follow the lead of Malaviyaji, and then we shall be able to find out who the friends of the depressed are and who their enemies. After all, there is a limit to exploitation at one stage but it must cease at another stage when People will find out that they are made mere pawns in the hands of selfish and interested persons and parties. And then time alone will answer what then.

* * * *

I am credibly informed that Sir Hari Singh Gour, the Leader of the Nationalist party in the Assembly, has addressed a letter to Dr. P. Subbaroyan, Leader of the Opposition in the Madras Legislative Council, suggesting to the latter affiliation of his party with the Central Nationalist party which is functioning in the Assembly. By this time, the Assembly Nationalist party has achieved notoriety of a type scarcely with any parallel in the politics of this country. No doubt, Sir Hari Singh styles himself as the Leader of that party, although his leadership is being questioned by every other member of that party. However, he has done well in making the attempt that he has made to be hand in glove with provincial parties whose creed and policy are akin to his party's. Madras has already begun to feel that any political party which accepts as its leader Dr. P. Subbaroyan can never function with any success. So also, people think of Sir Hari Singh's Leadership. They can call themselves leaders, no matter whether they have following or not.

Dr. Subbaroyan proposes to convene a meeting of his party on the 25th inst., when probably allotments on which cut motions must be tabled by his party during budget discussions in the Council will be discussed; and opportunity will also be taken to take a decision on Sir Hari Singh's suggestion for affiliation of the provincial party with the Central party. The information that I have been able to gather is that the Madras Nationalists may refuse to ally themselves with Sir Hari Singh Gour's party for a variety of reasons, and a reply on those lines will be drafted at that meeting.

* * * *

Mr. S. Satyamurthi is now out of the Jail. He is recouperating his lost energy, energy lost in the "fight for the freedom" of his motherland. His politics, his subterranean ways, his inconsistencies have all been exposed from time to time by even his own party men. And so, I shall not attempt that. He claims to be a social reformer. He will eat with an adi-Dravida. And who can therefore say that he is not a social reformer? Well, the cat was

(Continued on page 5 col. 1)

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INTRIGUE FOR A THRONE

MOVE TO RESTORE HAPSBURGS IN AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY

Berlin, (By Mail).

The restoration of the Hapsburgs in Austria and Hungary is again the subject of lively discussion with the ex-Empress Zita playing an active role in the background.

Her son Prince Otto Von Hapsburg (Otto I as he is styled by the Austrian Royalists), arrived in Berlin and is stated to have had a number of meetings with prominent Austrians. He is incognito as the Duke Von Bar.

Prince Otto, who was accompanied by his former tutor, Count Degenfield, whom he recently created a knight of the Golden Fleece, is ostensibly here for the purpose of continuing his studies in Berlin libraries for his doctorate of Mainz University.

He has not yet come into contact with members of the Hohenzollern family, and he is not likely to do so if his mother's wishes are respected.

Coincident with Prince Otto's visit, the Hungarian Legitimists have been circulating a proclamation in Berlin on behalf of the claims of the Archduke Johannes Orth's descendants.

The Legitimists say that far from having been drowned he lived far many years in Nevada, where he married a farmer's daughter.

Their seventy-two grandchildren are actively pressing their claims—Exchange.

MAN WHO COULDN'T LIVE A LIE

THOUGH TRUTH MAY COST HIS LIBERTY FOR LIFE!

Douai, (by mail)

George Washington may live in History as the boy who could not tell a Lie, but Froance has now its tale to tell of the ex-convict who could not live a lie, though a glorious one.

He is now revealing the truth, even though it may take him back to the dreaded penal settlement of Devil's Isle to finish a life sentence.

Thirty years ago Jean Baptiste Debaix was known to the police on the northern frontier of France and Belgium as an inveterate smuggler with several convictions to his discredit

And when, in the course of a fight, one of the customs officers was killed, the police put their hands on the man among the smugglers they knew best.

Though local gossip had it that the real assassin was the brother-in-law of Debaix, the latter held his tongue for the sake of his sister, and in due course he received a life sentence and was sent to Cayenne.

Escaping once, he was recaptured, but he made a second escape in 1913, and had established himself as a model citizen and workman in Venezuela when the world war came.

CALL OF COUNTRY

The call of his country was more to the man than anything else, but he knew that if he made known his real identity he would not be allowed to serve but would be sent back to captivity.

It was then he decided on the living lie, and it was with stolen papers, carefully "doctored," in the name of Alfred Lhermite, that he presented himself before theFrench Consul and demanded repatriation so that he might report for service.

His request was granted, and in due course Alfred Lhermite was incorporated under the flag and fought with distinction to the end of the war, being wounded three times, gassed once and earning the Croix de Guerre, with bars.

With demobilisation he returned to civil life as Alfred Lhermite, and Jean Baptiste Debaix was forgotten by all the world, save the man entitled to the name.

HIS UNEASY MIND

He settled in Metz, where he had been demobilised, and for the past fourteen years he was respected as a hard-working man of excellent character.

All the same, his mind was not easy at living a lie, and he has come forward to reveal his real identity, even though he has been warned that not even the glory associated with name he usurped will excuse him in the eyes of the law.

Now that the sister for whose sake he took a punishment that was not his, is dead, the resuscitated Jean Baptiste Debaix has confessed that he allowed himself to be convicted dy his silence.

It was, as popular rumour said at the time, his brother-in-law who fired the fatal shot.

But in addition to his sister, other people whose testimony is vital to establishing his innocence are dead, and at the moment there does not appear to be any evidence on which the Court of Cassation would be justified in reopening the case in order to permit the ex-convict to occupy the hero's home for which he fought.

He has been lodged in prison here to await despatch in the next convict ship unless in the meantime officialism should discover some means of straining the letter of the law.

WITCHCRAFT IN AFRICA

EDUCATION AS A MEANS OF SUPPRESSION

London, (By Mail)

At a meeting promoted by the African Society and presided over by Lord Buxton, the President, at the Imperial Institute a lecture on "Witchcraft in Africa" was given by Mr. F. H. Melland, late of the Northern Rhodesia Administration and author of "In Witchbound Africa."

His argument was that Africa would continue to be haunted by witchcraft until we had changed our attitude towards it. We did not believe in witchcraft, but the natives did and instead of trying to suppress it by penal laws our endeavour should be to dispel the shadow by educational agencies.

We must begin, Mr. Melland said, to "think black" and teach the natives to "think white." Co-operation between natives and settlers was essential in this respect and in others if progress was to be made in Africa. As the native developed he would get less and less satisfied with our rule, in spite of its material benefits to him, unless we were always progressively explaining it to him. The native came to the white man in most of his trouble, but not in regard to witchcraft, because, as he said, the white man did not believe in it. Here was a great field for propaganda which was only second in importance to the effort we were beginning to make to get at the black man's mind. England should be projected by means of carefully taken films before the Bantu races. Similarly, good films of Africa would help England to understand the races she was governing.

From one end of Africa to the other the white man would steadily increase in numbers, and for a long time to come he would be the dominant factor. But the native was not going to be driven out of his country as the Red Indian and the Australian black were; he was not going to become only an interesting historical survival. The Bantu might be primitive barbarians, but they were the most virile and persistent racial stock extant. Their numbers were relatively small, but they outnumbered the white man in Africa's highlands by 14 to one, and were bound to become a steadily greater dynamic element in the highland's polity.

A RACIAL PROBLEM

The central problem, therefore, and it was one which we could not evade, was neither the future of the natives nor the future of the whites; it was to find the basis upon which black and white (plus brown) could live. It was a racial problem, and could only be solved by co-operation between the races. We had reached a parting of the ways, and if the right road be followed we could build up a community of varied races, with internal difficulties no doubt, but whose members would be prosperous, progressive, and at peace with one another. The alternative was racial strife on colour lines, which would ruin Africa utterly, a ruin that would react on the whole world.

Lord Buxton said that when cases of the killing by witch doctors of natives supposed to be possessed of an evil spirit came before him when he was High Commissioner of Northern Rhodesia, he had taken the view, advocated by the lecture, that the act was done in what was supposed to be the public interest, and, accordingly, he imposed, not hanging, but a lighter sentence. Within the last few years there had been a considerable advance in getting rid of this terrible evil of witchcraft. The work of missionaries tended to diminish the superstition. Englishmen in administrative positions treated the natives as friends, and had won their confidence. There was no doubt that witchcraft was not now so active a thing in the lives of the natives as it had been under the old native chiefs, who used witchcraft for their own personal ends. We must not be impatient if progress appeared to be slow. Only 150 years ago or so in this country every person in the hall would have thought nothing of the condemnation of a witch to death. He agreed with the lecturer in co-operation—in taking the natives with us,

GRAMOPHONE WARNING TO MINERS

A NOVEL SAFETY DEVICE

London (By Mail.)

A novel idea has been adopted at a South Wales colliery for the purpose of minimizing the number of accidents. When the miners at the Wyndham Colliery are about to descend the pits, a voice by gramophone warns them of the chief points of danger in underground working. A bell tolls and a voice says:—

"Hello! Manager Calling! Safety First. Search your pockets for matches before you go down the pit. Don't carry tools and blocks of timber in the cage with you. Take care of your safety lamps; hang them up in a safe position. Don't walk the engine plant when the ropes are in motion. Don't go in front of trams where the gradient is over 3in. per yard. You must not work under overhanging coal or ground unless securely spragged. Hauliers, take care of the horses under your charge; don't abuse them, treat them kindly; take your horses safely to the stables at the end of the shift. Cases of ill-treatment will be severely dealt with."

Special records have been made by "His Master's Voice," which are played through loud-speakers at the pit-head whenever a party of men goes on duty. Mr. D. Llewellyn Richards, the manager of the mine, found that printed warnings were forgotten and realized how much stronger would be an appeal through the ear. The Gramophone Company, London, made two special records, and different warnings are played from day to day. It is reported that the number of small accidents has been reduced since the gramophone has been installed, and Mr Richards has demonstrated his innovation before a number of inspectors of the Ministry of Mines with a view to the adoption of the method in all collieries in the country.

A Young man, after eight years' absence abroad, alighted at his home station and, despite his expectations, there was no one there to meet him. He then caught sight of the station-master, a friend since boyhood. To him at least he would be welcome, and he was about to extend a hearty greeting, when the other spoke first.

"Hello, George!" he said. "Goin' away?"

THE ENGLISH LANGUAG

GROWING INTERNATIONAL U

London (By M

The need for British universities to give greater attention to the growing importance of English as an international language was emphasized by Mr. A. Lloyd James, University Reader in Phonetics, School of Oriental Studies, in a lecture he gave at University College on "Speech in the Modern World."

Sir John Reith, Director-General of the British Broadcasting Corporation, who presided, said the line that the B.B.C. tried to take—and he was not sure that this formulation of policy did not owe its origination to Mr. Lloyd James—was that the speech of the announcer should be such as would not evoke any considerable measure of opposition in any part of the country. That might be an impossible ideal. The affectations of the educated were as reprehensible, and from the point of view of the unfortunate foreigner, quite as regrettable, as the slovenliness, or whatever term was used, of the uneducated.

The B.B.C had never set out to produce a standard English pronunciation. It had only set out to try to talk by the mouth of its announcers that type of English which might be described as the common denominator type acceptable to all social grades and all geographical classifications. He did not refer to dialects, the preservation of which was of immense importance, but to the ordinary speech of everyday life.

Mr. Lloyd-James said the need for an international language was becoming more and more evident, and as English was the language of greatest international currency it was destined to supply a great part of the world's needs, including those of the East and Africa, because it was the medium through which western civilization was spreading. The teachnical and scientific vocabulary of the future in the East and in Africa would be largely English. It was time that the British universities became aware of the fact that English had become a very familar fact in the world, and adjusted their ideas accordingly on the subject of English teaching.

Outsize

Brown had very large feet and a very bad cough.

He entered a boot shop, and the assistant turned the place upside down to find something to fit him. Brown had just tried on the fortieth pair when he started coughing.

"Nasty cough!" said the assistant.

"Yes," gasped Brown. "Doctor says I've got one foot in the grave."

"I shouldn't worry," said the assistant. "You'll never get the other in; it's too big!"

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STORY OF THE SWORD

CHANGES THROUGH THE AGES

USE IN PEACE AND WAR

LONDON (BY MAIL)

Major C. J. Ffoulkes, curator of the Tower armouries, presided at the Travers Trust lectures, whiod are being given by Mr. J. G. Mann in the rooms of Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House.

Mr. MANN, who spoke on "The History of the Sword," said that no weapon had occupied so large a place in man's imagination as the sword. It had been the symbol of war, of justice, of civic dignity, and of kinghthood. Swords with miraculous properties were prominent in legends and romance, and it was a flaming sword with which the Angel drove our ancestors from the Garden of Eden. The full history of the sword had yet to be written. Sir Richard Burton had stopped after his first volume, and the speaker after nine years' work found the end still far from sight, since the history of the sword was bound up with the history of mankind.

The bronze leaf-shaped swords which had been found in considerable numbers throughout Europe were usually badly balanced, and had not a good cutting edge. More practical bronze swords of a pointed variety were uncommon, though they had been found as far apart as Crete and Ireland. Of the transition age from bronze to iron many fine swords had been unearthed, some with large mushroomed-shaped hilts, while the most striking swords of the iron age proper were the Iberian *falcatas*, curved swords with blades closely resembling the Ghurka *kukri*. The Roman sword was of two kinds, a long and a short sword, straight-bladed, with a globular pommel, and shaped grip.

THE KNIGHTLY SWORD

Viking swords were important not only for their fine quality, but because the medieval knightly sword proceeded directly from them. It was simplicity of form and balance which made the medieval knightly sword remarkable. It was a two-edged weapon with a round or brazil-nut shaped pommel, and the quillons gradually increased in length. The swords were usually two-edged for striking, as well as pointed for thrusting, but there was also a curved single-edged sword or falchion for cutting, and a later development was the bastard or "hand-and-a-half" sword, which enabled the owner to use both hands if necessary.

With the Renaissance the disuse of armour and the wearing of swords in civilian costume necessitated a growing complication of guards to the hand, developing into the so-called "swept" and basket-hilted swords of the sixteenth century and the first half of the seventeenth century. The long rapiers brought in with Italian fencing and mentioned by Shakespeare had guards of this kind. By the middle of the seventeenth century the rapier was replaced by the court sword, The broad-swords and tucks of the Civil War continued in Scotland in the familiar basket-hilted broad-swords still worn in Scottish regiments and miscalled claymores. The court sword was worn throughout the eighteenth century with civilian dress, a heavier variety being used in war. In the latter half of the century the heavy curved cavalry sabre came in with the Hungarian hussars. After this the history of the sword was one of War Office Regulations.

Starving Geniuses

What Poets Need is a Group to Hiss and cheer

NEW YORK, BY MAIL.

What the modern poets need is a group to hear their poems read, which would "applaud what they like and hiss what they don't like," according to Mr. John Masefield, the Poet Laureate, now touring America.

"The ancients had that, so did the Elizabethans, and they were the better for it," Mr. Masefield is reported as having told an interviewer.

"If an Elizabethan audience wasn't pleased with a poet's work it went on to a public execution, to see some one boiled in oil, for its pleasure. Poets understood that and knew that they must be interesting.

"Too many poets are neglected now," Mr. Masefield added, "A neglected poet sulks and takes to gin, and then to opium. His verse suffers, . . . and he dies.

"Geniuses are starving in attics now just as they did in Chatterton's time."—Reuter.

AMERICA AND GREAT BRITAIN

PLEA FOR COMMON ACTION

London (by Mail)

Sir Evelyn Wrench was the guest of honour at luncheon at the Hotel Victoria, of the American Chamber of Commerce in London, and spoke on "America and World Patriotism."

Mr. FRANCIS E. POWELL, who presided, said that the Chamber advocated that the World Economic Conference would be held in Washington because they knew that nothing done on this side of the water would have the effect on the great American public that would be accomplished by holding the Conference over there.

SIR EVELYN WRENCH said that he too hoped that the Conference would be held in America because Europe seemed a long way away to those who lived in the Middle West. He went on to speak of world shrinkage illustrated by wireless and transport progress, and added that we were still trying to run a twentieth-century world with eighteenth-century minds, and were yet surprised that we were ending up in chaos. He thought that Great Britain had a dual role to perform. We were off Europe and also not to Europe. We belonged to a political system which had branches in all parts of the globe, and we could keep the new world in touch with Europe through our affiliations. It was inspiring for an Englishman who travelled in Central and Eastern Europe to find with what friendship his country was regarded. They thought we had no axe to grind, and they wanted our help in building up a new Europe. English-speaking literature was now more popular than ever it was.

America was going to play a predominant part in the creation of the new world at which they aimed. He personally hoped that Great Britain and America were going to approach world problems with a deep conviction that a great trust had been placed on our shoulders, wether we liked it or not. We found ourselves in a key position in the world, and he thought there would be no way out of the present morass unless our two countries frankly understood one another and said to one another exactly what was felt. We could stand home truths. He thought that from the forthcoming discussions in Washington there might emerge some kind of plan of common action. The world could not do without American help.

It would, he submitted, be useful to summon a round-table conference not of politicians but of business men and business women of the different countries. This might consider such matters as the abolition of *visas* and passports, a common system of street signs and notices in hotel bedrooms, a standard thermometer, a common system of weights and measures, and perhaps a common currency. We wanted to do something to promote contact between the nations of the world, more frequent visits of Journalists to different countries, and a larger exchange of professors and school children. The alternatives before the world at the present time were co-operation or the law of the jungle.

Vicar Looks Up His Church

Step Forced By 14 Years Of Thefts

LONDON (BY MAIL.)

Thieves have driven the Rev. R.P.E. Cheesman, vicar of Christ Church, Streatham Hill, S. W., to lock up his church, except during services.

"For fourteen years," he said to the Daily Mirror, "there has been a constant succession of thefts from the church. The time has come when we can guard church property only by keeping the doors closed.

"At their last visit the thieves took the carpet from in front of the high altar, a pair of brass candlesticks, a pair of vases and the silk tablecloth from the children's corner. We have lost count of the vast number of candlesticks taken.

"Women are afraid to go on guard by themselves, and I have found it impossible to arrange for systematic guard by groups. Men are at business all day, and therefore unable to keep watch."

Divorce for Chevalier

PARIS, (BY MAIL)

Maurice Chevalier and his wife, Yvonne Vallee, were finally separated by the Paris Divorce Court.

Yvonne pleaded that her husband had deserted her and Maurice said that her temper was incompatible with his own—Reuter.

AIMS OF MODERN ITALY

SIGNOR GRANDI ON WORLD CO-OPERATION

LONDON (BY MAIL)

The Italian Ambassador and Donna Antoinetta Grandi were the guests of the British-Italian Luncheon Club at the Hotel Victoria, Northumberland Avenue. MAJOR-GENERAL ASHMORE presided.

SIR CHARLES PETRIE, in proposing the toast of "The Guests," said that Signor Grandi did not come to this country merely as a representative of a great Power, he came as one who had played a great part on the stage of Europe, The unity of Europe could only be achieved by the co-operation of the Powers concerned, and to that end Signor Grandi had been striving. Without ceasing to be a good Italian, he had shown himself to be a good European as well. (Cheers).

The ITALIAN AMBASSADOR, in reply, said that they would not expect him to deliver a regular speech. He had made so many speeches during his life that he now realized what a grand thing it was to enjoy what he hoped would be a very long holiday in that respect. (Laughter.) They were assembled at a table of hospitality and friendship, and he thanked them, the friends of his country, for their cordial welcome.

The sons of modern Italy were endeavouring to carry on the work undertaken over a century ago by those Italian pioneers who were welcomed in England as brothers, and who learnt and found here the strength, the inspiration, and the faith to build a new nation and a new State. Since then the Anglo-Italian friendship had been everlasting in Italian and British hearts. Every day he felt more and more that England was becoming his new home—a new home that was a little colder, especially in the last few days. (Laughter.) But he did not forget that he was an old soldier of Alpine troops, and that he had spent many winters in the snow and Alpine trenches.

English people were sometimes too severe in criticizing their climate. Last Sunday, for instance, he picked in an English country garden a beautiful magnolia grown in the open air and which was covered in a splendid mantle of frost. Nowhere in Italy could they pick, at this time of the year, a magnolia like that. (Laughter.)

In his new English home, he understood everyday, more and more easily, what were the real foundations of the permanent solidarity between their two countries. Great Britain and Italy were both inclined towards common sense, moderation, and the spirit of justice. A strong and practical interpretation of national life was closely associated with the spirit of world co-operation, leading their people towards idealistic ends. (Cheers.)

COMMENDATORE LUIGI VILLARI proposed "The Luncheon Club," and COMMENDATORE R. S. CONWAY replied.

No job No Marriage

German unemployment Allowance Ban

Berlin (by mail)

An unemployed person has no right to marry, the Duisburg Labour Court has decided, and also ruled that a man out of a job who marries has no claim to family unemployment allowance.

The court, in its judgment, declared: "Any unemployed person with out property who at the present time with no prospect of obtaining a job in the near future, marries, acts without a sense of responsibility to himself, his family and the State."

It decided that to pay the family unemployment allowance would only encourage increased irresponsibility amongst the jobless.

Robot Aeroplane

Before long a robot aeroplane may be able to carry you from Land's End to Aberdeen or Ultima Thule without human pilotage. This result is foreshadowed by the "pilot's assister," designed by the Air Ministry to relieve pilots of the physical and nervous strain of flying for long periods.

After the pilot has taken off and gained some altitude, this apparatus takes over the rudder and elevator controls, and in actual practice the robot pilot has been proved to keep a better course than the human pilot is able to do.

The instrument consists of an air-driven free gyroscope which operates air valves supplying servo-motors connected with the controls.

ARE YOU OF "BLUP"?

MR. H. G. WELLS'S NEW LONG NOVEL.

ARE you a Bulpington? Have you anything of the Blup about you?

After studying Mr. H. G. Wells's new, thick, four hundred page novel, published to-day "The Bulpington of Blup" (Hutchinson, 8s. 6d.), most "candid readers" will feel a little uneasy.

For this new hero-villain of his—this supposed-to-be-typical Theodore Bulpington—appears at the start to be quite an amiable, if over-sensitive, young fellow. As Bulpington, we don't intensely dislike anything about him, except his name.

But poor Theodre builds fantasies, as the psycho-analysts say. (So do we all.) And Mr. Wells, being terribly up-to-date, and having mastered all this century's brain-befuddling stuff about complexes and the subconscious, has endowed Theodore, the real man, with a weakness for imagining himself to be "of Blup" and to the *the* Bulpington: that is a person of vast imaginary importance. Blup was the ancient name of Theodore's birthplace —Blayport.

WELL WELLS

So that is what Blup means. And it means that many of us are "of Blup"; or it may be of Hoxton; or, in extreme cases, of Hanwell. We nearly all imagine ourselves to be other than we are. The French call it Bovaryisme —after the lady who was always imagining herself to be no better than she was.

Well, Wells—if we may say so. Why, having thus shown us a common case, are you so hard on poor Thodore? For the sensitive slightly "arty" youth turns, in a magnificently Wellsian and fruity last chapter, into an unconscionable humbug pulling the slim legs of old ladies with lies about his part in the war.

One of his parts was to run away. We might all have done that; for "all men would be cowards if they durst." And, for the rest, Theodore seems to have done his bit—or tried to.

However, he thought too much (admittedly) about himself and about being "of Blup," The girl he loved wouldn't marry him. He came into money. He is now telling lies in Devonshire.

Most of us again, do that wherever we may live. But, alas, how few of us come into money and get, believed by the neighbours?—(Daily Mirror)

CLOCK WITH 685 FACES

PROBABLY the biggest time-recording system in this country is to be seen in the New Imperial Chemical House, Millbank. It is a clock with 685 faces, and these record the time in that number of separate departments. This type of multi-clock, electrically controlled, is comparatively modern. It may be more exactly described not so much as one clock as a clock family, with a patriarch as its head controlling his numerous progeny so completely that his family never differ or disagree, and never lose touch one with another.

Timepiece collectors are not unknown. By far the biggest collection is the Kings. He has more than 1,000. At Windsor Castle there are 360, at Sandringham 250, at Buckingham Palace 160, and there are others in Scotland. It takes twentyfour men two months in the year to clean them all.

Most people think of the Law Courts as a building with one big clock which tells the time to Fleet Street and the Strand, and it is surprising to learn that the big Gothic pile contains 650 separate clocks. Other well-clocked buildings in London are the London Hospital and Unilever House with 250 clocks each, Parliament and the new Shell building with 200 each, and Bush House with 150, Government buildings are still in the key-winding stage.

An Illness that Prefers Blondes

And Makes Them More Attractive!

Lodon (by mail)

An illness which is far more common in blondes than in brunettes is mentioned in the "British Medical Journal"

It is called "exophthalmic goitre," another name being "Grave's disease," and it affects the thyroid gland and the eyes.

Mr. W. H. C. Romanis, House Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, in a paper from which extracts are printed in the journal, says the disease tends to produce a type of woman who is volatile, lively and temperamental, and who, if the disease is not too far advanced, is usually of a type distinctly attractive to the male.

Plant with a brain

Rations Supplied to the Stinging Army

Most gardeners regard all insects as pests and destroy them indiscriminately, but how many can distinguish between the useful larva of the hover fly and the common green caterpillar which plays havoc on our rose trees?

They are found side by side on the same plant; the former one of the greatest enemies of the green fly, while the other destroys the buds and leaves. In garden soil there are grubs that destroy the roots of seedlings, while others feed on these enemies. How many gardeners recognize friend from foe?

In the wilds of Central America we find a plant which at first glance appears to be able to think. It can distinguish between friends and foes in the insect world, encouraging those that help it to survive by paying them handsomely with food, on condition that they destroy the insects that would, if allowed a free hand, kill it. Writes Oliver G. Pike in "Tit-Bits."

This plant is a species of acacia, known as the bull's-head thorn. The leaves of this edible tree are protected by thorns from the attacks of animals, but these do not prevent the leaf-cutting ants from attacking it. These ants cut away the leaves of any tree they select so rapidly that it is soon stripped, the leaves are carried back to their nests and converted into leaf-mould, in which they grow fungi as food.

The bull's-head thorn has discovered that there are other ants which do not carry off the leaves, but will attack any creature which comes within their reach. So in past ages, this apparently intelligent plant set to work to encourage these insects. In the dry season these stinging ants live underground, but when the rains set in and the thorn starts to grow young, succulent leaves, the ants swarm to the tree, and if we touch any part of a twig or branch they spread over our hands, inflicting sharp stings. At the base of each small leaf as it appears there is a tiny cup in which sweet nectar is stored, and daily, as it is devoured by the angry ants, a fresh supply comes to hand.

At this stage, the acacia grows a new set of thorns, which appear in pairs, and are filled with a food the ants appear to relish. One end only of each pair of thorns is bitten off; the stinging ants enter, devour the contents and, in doing so, find a comfortable, ready-made shelter. We might think that the destruction of the interior of the thorn would injure it, but on the contrary it appears to encourage its growth.

CHANGE OF DIET

When the leaves are well-grown, the leaf-cutting ant comes along in battalions, but the stinging ants attack them. Desperate fights take place, leaving the stinging ants victors.

When the leaves of the thorn are full-grown the supply in the little sacs at their base dries up, and now the plant is confronted with another difficulty. The leaves are ripe for its enemies, the supply of honey is gone, and unless something is done, her protectors will leave. At the extremity of each leaf there now appears a small object, pear-shaped, and really a miniature fruit, This quickly ripens and provides a supply of new food.

"There's something in what that fellow says—that the cleverness of the father often proves a stumbling block to the son."

"Well, thank goodness, our Tommy won't have anything to fall over."

o o o o

Bore: "Whenever I start to talk about my India days I am reminded of the time—"

Bored: Quite! well it is rearly midnight now

Either a political speaker or an actor," he said, discussiog the new boarder.

"What makes you think that?"

"Didn't you see the way he ducked when you asked him if he'd have a tomato?"

NO MORE 'LAME DUCKS'

AMERICAN DECISION

The Twentieth Amendment to the United States Constitution, prohibiting "lame duck" sessions of Congress, became law on Monday when the State of Missouri ratified it, thus bringing the number of States approving the amendment up to 36, the number required. The Missouri Legislature gave its approval by the necessary three-fourths majority.

The amendment prohibits "lame duck" sessions of Congress such as are now in progress. It provides that Congress should meet yearly, beginning in January, and that all the members elected in the previous November should be seated. The Presidents henceforth will take office on January 20, writes the "New York" correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian."

The Twentieth Amendment was approved by Congress in March, 1932; but no amendment to the American Constitution becomes valid unless ratified by three-quarters of the 48 States. It happens that the Legislatures of only 17 States had met before the end of the year, and 16 of these had ratified the amendment. The remaining twenty have therefore ratified within a period of three weeks. Virginia and New York were the first States to ratify, Missouri the latest.

The effect of the amendment will be that the President elected in November, 1936, will come into office on January 20, 1937, instead of on March 4, and similarly in subsequent years, and that senators and representatives elected in November will take their seats on the following January 3, instead of waiting (as they now do unless a special session is called) until December, 13 months after election.

The "short session" of "lame ducks" will disappear. The "lame ducks" are Congressmen who have been defeated in November but continue as legislators until March. The House of Representatives now in session includes nearly 150 "lame ducks."

It had been a long struggle. Senator George W. Norris, Progressive Republican of Nebraska, carried the proposed amendment through the Senate six times in nine years. Every time the House of Representatives, strictly controlled by the Republicans, blocked the change by insistence on a wrecking amendment. The Republicans, however, lost their majority in the House a year ago.

This is Mr. Norris's second constitutional victory. In 1910, while a member of the House of Representatives, he led the attack upon the cast-iron "Rules of the House," by means of which the Speaker—then Joseph G. Cannon—maintained an almost absolute control over legislation. The resolution to have the Committee on Rules—that is, the Standing Orders Committee of the House—elected by the House, instead of appointed by the Speaker, was moved by Norris and carried after a continuous debate of 29 hours.

Senator Norris was also the author of the Muscle Shoals Bill, providing for public ownership of the great water-power station on the Tennessee River. The bill was passed by Congress last year, but was vetoed by President Hoover.

She was sitting for an artist, and kept up an almost constant chatter. During a lull, the artist ventured: "We had boiled mutton and caper sauce for dinner last night."

"What an extraordinary thing to say," remarked the sitter.

"I know it is but it's just as good as anything you've said for the last two hours."

• • • •

A Woman entered a public-house and asked confidentially for two glasses of gin.

"Why two," asked the barman, "when there's only one of you?'

"The other lady," was the dignified reply, is lying down outside."

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SCOTTISH HOME RULE

PUBLIC INQUIRY PROPOSED

London (By mail)

A comprehensive motion on Home Rule for Scotland, including a proposal that the question should be sifted by a Royal Commission or some other method of public inquiry, was unanimously passed by the Committee of the Convention of the Royal Barghs of Scotland at a meeting in Edinburgh.

In submitting the sub-committee's report on Scottish Home Rule, Mr. J.M. Rust, Edinburgh, said the declaration that any scheme of self-government or Parliamentary devolution should be so defined in its terms as to ensure that there would be no breach of the existing union between Scotland and England was placed in the front of the report.

The remedy of the grievances of local legislation brought into view many question of a far-reaching nature which required most careful consideration. The question of finance embraced the joint financial relationship between Scotland and England as affected by income-tax. Excise duties, motor and petrol duties, pensions and road and housing subsidies. The commission of inquiry which was suggested in the report would take evidence on all the the essential facts in regard to Scottish local administration. The convention would be glad to supply information in many important points.

Judging from the utterances which had been made during the past few months, Mr. Rusk stated that there seemed to be a number of fervid Scots men who were so clamant for Home Rule that they did not seem to consider the consequences to their country of some of their proposals. The convention with its influence and responsibilities, was not going to be led down any blind alley in this matter.

Since the union of the Parliaments both countries had become interwoven by hundreds of Acts of Parliament and by general practice in their national life. Separation could only take place by some arbitrary act, but arbitrary acts in national life were dangerous steps to take. They generally ended in creating greater trouble than they were intended to remedy.

JURORS AS BEAUTY JUDGES

INSPECTING NOSE OF A DANCER

London (By Mail)

An eighteen-years-old dancers stood for several moments before the jury in the King's Bench so that they might judge—in the words of counsel—"whether she was pretty or not.

She was Miss Mabel Winifred Mabbs, of Sedlescombe-road, Fulham, and she brought an action, through her father, before Mr. Justice Horridge, against Mr. Stanley Worland, an engineer, of Portobello-road, Notting hill, in consequence of injuries she received while riding in his car.

It was stated that as the result of the accident Miss Mabbs had a permanent scar on both sides of her nose, which would make it difficult for her to obtain theatrical engagements.

Mr. Worland, whose age was given as about twenty-one, denied that he was negligent and pleaded contributory negligence on the part of Miss Mabbs.

Mr. Doughty, K. C. for Miss Mabbs, said that on the evening of October 27, 1931, General Election Day, Mr. Worland took Miss Mabbs to a cinema.

At about 11-30 he drove her to a road-house on the Great West Road, where they had supper.

They started back, said Mr. Doughty, about midnight, and soon afterwards the car crashed into the rear of a trailer attached to a stationary lorry.

Miss Mabbs was thrown forward into the wind-screen and her nose was almost cut off. She also had bruises and cuts on her legs.

"But for a pretty girl" Mr. Doughty went on, she has... but I will leave you to judge whether she is pretty or not.

IN THE LAUNDRY

BY LAUNDRYMAN

When I started my laundry, I promised my clientele that I would wash the linen of some of the politicians of Madras, whose methods of achieving their objects in politics have become so very obnoxious that it became an urgent necessity to expose some of them mercilessly and ruthlessly. With that object in view, I have undertaken this job of a laundryman, however odious and however difficult the discharge of that task may be. As I love the dirty rags that come out from the Mount Road Billingsgate journal, I have been reading it very carefully with a keen desire to wash it perfectly well. Week after week, as the "Chronicle" brings in more and more dirt and descends lower and lower in its attack against persons whose character in public life is unimpeachable, my task becomes harder in beating it on the stone.

* * *

In pursuance of the promise I made, I shall take first the suit of Mr. M. K. Reddy which needs immediate washing. The Diwan Bahadur of the Chingleput District Board who is put down as the Honorary Editor—who the paid editor is the outside public is in profound ignorance, which I will dispel in a later washing—the Diwan Editor Bahadur has featured in a three-column heading in his paper the precious rubbish that he inflicted on the poor Reddies of the Kistna District, a few of whom formed what was called the Kistna District Reddy Conference. Mr. Reddy calls his address "a stirring appeal to the clansmen". I would like to know from Mr. Reddy, the super-nationalist, the reason for his clannishness. Is he preaching one thing and practising another? It is too much to expect of Mr. Reddy to be consistent, because his heart is on one side and his actions are on the other side for reasons of self-existence in the political life of this Presidency. I however would like to put another question which of course would be pertinent from all points of view. What happened to the pompously advertised Madras Nationalist Conference which was to hold its session in some village in Chingleput District? The Publicity Officer of that Conference, a defunct journalist, was issuing bulletins after bulletins in the press about the arrangements. And nothing happened! As for the stirring appeal, the only things that the address could have stirred, according to my humble opinion, are the lips of the speaker himself, who had to read out another man's views, and the jaws of his hearers who would have yawned to the fullest extent in sheer boredom at the dull, unintelligent, and uninspiring address. I have read the whole address from the beginning to the end but I regret to state that there is not a single bright thought, an illuminating word or a brilliant turn of expression throughout the rigmarole that the unfortunate Kistna Reddies had to submit to on Sunday last.

* * *

There is one redeeming feature however in the address as printed in Mr. M. K. Reddy's paper and that is its brightest part. It is nothing else than the photograph of Mr. M. K. Reddy himself. Instead of being published in the 4th number, it ought to have been published in the very first issue. But better late than ever. There is only one word I want to say with regard to the picture. If only Mr. Reddy had trimmed his mental faculties with at least one hundreth part of the care and time devoted to his moustaches, he would have been undoubtedly among the front rank politicians in the Assembly, where he would have made a name for himself as an all India figure. Instead of developing his higher nature he began developing rather rapidly his other qualities which made his name stink in the nostrils of all decent gentlemen.

* * *

It is not my purpose here to go into details of the romantic career of Mr. Reddy (although I have received in response to my appeal made in the columns of "The Sunday Observer" a good lot of information in that connection) for the simple reason that they would excel the Mysteries of London written by that great English novelist, Reynolds. I shall reserve that material for another occasion and for the present I thank those friends who have supplied me with the necessary facts. One thing I can say and that is that Mr. Reddy can be summed up in three simple words - Wealth, Vanity, and Venus. The first was his advantage, the second his defect and the third his undoing. He is such a great man that he deserves to be the President of the T. P. (Tremendous Personalities Society in Madras

* * *

I am sorry and extremely sorry to have digressed from the Presidential address to Mr. Reddy himself. I could not help it. I apologise to my readers. But I would like to offer one word of advice to Mr. Reddy. Let him ponder over it in a serious and unromantic mood. In the paper of which he is the dummy and mummy editor, four other men have each an iron in the fire. They have their own axes to grind. The purdah editor wants to earn his livelihood. The Chunampet crack nurses vengeance against some individuals and would spend any amount to harm them. The Kamma ry(i)ot leader wants to get back into power. And also Kumaramangalam. What will Mr. M. K. Reddy get? A big namam! They are using him as a catspaw and he does not know it, and the irony lies in the fact that this poor Diwan Bahadur believes, honestly too, that he is using them. I can only think that Mr. Reddy deserves more of pity than chastisement, more of advice than abuse. May he come to his senses earlier is my ardent wish!

NEW FLOOR LEADER FOR COUNCIL

Continued from page 1 col. 4)

out of the bag the other day. The extinct volcanoes, including those who had the good fortune of participating at the first and second sessions of the Round Table Conference, but the misfortune of not being summoned a third time probably because their contributions at the first and second sessions were so valuable—held a meeting at the Gokhale Hall the other day to "record their opinions" on the third R. T. C. achievements. Mr. S. Satyamurthi was approached to be one of the speakers at that meeting. A very shrewd and astute politician that he is, he told the gentleman who approached him with that request that he had no objection to be a speaker, but that he was afraid that he could not accept the invitation for fear that some one might put to him the question as to what his views on temple-entry were. Poor Mr. Satyamurthi! His heart beats so much in sympathy with the social reform movement, he is so much overwhelmed with deep concern for the welfare, progress and social advancement of our down trodden brethren that he cannot find words to give adequate expression to those sentiments. Truly, these are the types of people clothed in hypocrisy whom it devolves upon the "Sunday Observer" to expose fearlessly and without favour. I pity the undiluted 'patriotism,' the unalloyed 'nationalism' that has characterised the public life of this province.

Bollinism Licks the dust

The lesson that Salem taught

Public opinion against pseudo-nationalists

BY SEARCHLIGHT

Our little friend, the Jingo journalist writing in the "Chronicle" on politics and personalities began by a quotation "Money makes the mare go" and says "I am inclined to think that this adage was coined in the time of feudal lords who by a nod or shrug could make or mar the fortunes of Indians. We live in changed times and it is almost daily being brought home to us that no longer will the mare move at sight of money or in obedience to the monied." We do not agree with the latter conclusion of our friend for it was the money that made the mare go at Tanjore. Who does not know that our friend Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai over whose election we also feel glad although for a different reason, is the wealthiest merchant having business connections in the French Territories and British India. The cause of Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai at Tanjore was a golden cause which was espoused most enthusiastically and ardently by many a needy journalist and disgruntled politician. Our friend ought to have known that reverses in Local Board elections are natural consequences when there are too many aspirants - deserving or undeserving - to occupy the much coveted position of Presidentship of the District. We are surprised very much that our friend should have forgotten so soon and so early the reverses that the Bollinism had when the Bolliny Bahadur was holding the high office of the Chief Ministership.

Let our friend reflect for a moment on the achievements of Bollinism when it was on the saddle. What happened at Bellary in spite of wires being sent to some of the voters by Diwan Bahadur B. Munuswami Naidu to vote for his nominee, another Diwan Bahadur, as Chief Minister to the Government of Madras. We should like to tell in all humility that the wires of the great Munuswami Naidu were treated with the contempt they deserved, and another member of the Justice party opposed to Bollinism was elected. We shall take up another district viz, Kurnool —What was the result at Kurnool? A man opposed to Mr. Munuswamy Naidu and his methods was elected and at Anantapur the verdict of that District was decidedly against Bollinism in spite of the fact that a prominent Kamma gentleman who happens to be a relation of Bolliny Bahadur exerting his utmost to defeat Mr. Lakshmi Reddi. We can go on quoting instance after instance where the Justice Party has succeeded over the joint efforts of of Kumbakonam – Kumaramangalam, and Bolliny Bahadurism.

We shall leave for the present the Tanjore District and take up Coimbatore. Over Coimbatore election our friend the dirty Jim is gloating. We know for certain what forces were at work at Coimbatore to defeat Diwan Bahadur C. S. Rathnasabapathy Mudaliar whose administration was praised to the skies by Ministry after Ministry. Whether it was a Panagal Ministry or a Kumaramangalam Ministry or a Bollini Ministry, there was nothing but praise so far as the administration of Coimbatore District Board is concerned and it is against that gentleman that our friend who styles himself as "Scrutator" wants to throw mud. We can assure him that he can survive his impotent wrath and his mischievous and malicious attack. The truth how Mr. Vellingiri Gounder has scored success over Diwan Bahadur Rathnasabapathy Mudaliar is that Kumaramangalam rallied round under his banner all Gounders who happened to be in a majority in the district and Bolliny Bahadur who has his clansmen in the district has issued a bull to support the candidature of Mr. Gounder. Therefore it is evident that the success at Coimbatore was due to the grouping of Kamma and Gounder elements and our friend need not feel so very exultant over the success achieved at Coimbatore.

We should like to remind our friend of another instance when the nationalism of Dr. Subbarayan was rolling in dust. We mean the District Board election of Salem. Our readers will remember that the Presidentship of the Salem District Board was contested by no less a person than the wife of the leader of the Opposition, the Zamindarini of Kumaramangalam and the champion of the women's cause at the Round Table Conference, who was defeated by any overwhelming majority by a Justicite in spite of the communal rally that was made and in spite of Kumbaconam methods employed by Kumaramangalam and in spite of the stirring appeals issued by the two leaders of the Nationalist and the Democratic groups to the voters of Salem District. The defeat was inevitable, and it was conclusive. Yet our friend says that Bobbilism had to bite the dust forgetting that the "Nationalism" of Dr. Subbarayan and Mr. Munuswami Naidu was licking the dust.

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Contributors are requested to be brief and to the point, owing to the limitation of space.

EDITOR.

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THE SUNDAY OBSERVER

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1933.

THE MADRAS BUDGET

We publish on another page the full text of the speech of the Hon. Mr. H.G. Stokes, the Finance Member of the Government of Madras, in the Madras Legislative Council yesterday, when he presented the Budget. So far as the general public are concerned, particularly the agricultural classes, there is not much in it over which they can enthuse or feel satisfied. The favourable financial position of the Government is going to be utilised, not for the relief of agricultural distress or the remission of land revenue, but for the restoration of the full salary cut of the Services. No Provincial Government in India has so far gone, in the present state of financial stringency, to the extent of ignoring the claims of the people at large and sedulously guarding the interests of the Services. If the Services are to be served first, when finances improve, at the expense of the classes who depend on land, we can only say that it is a very fine ideal of "service" indeed. The Local Council has demanded a 12½ per cent remission of the land revenue assessment both for 1932—33 and 1933-1934. The Government have not been able to accept this modest and reasonable demand. However much we may feel gratified at the Province's favourable financial position, we cannot but say that there is little use of showing a surplus budget when that surplus ought to have been used to relieve the ryot's burden and mitigate the agriculturist's distress.

GANDHIJI AND ADHARMA

It is not without delicacy and hesitation that we venture to offer our criticism of Gandhiji's writings and actions. For we must own that one person who is considered universally as the world's greatest man is Gandhiji, and he is the favourite of the masses. Therefore our task becomes very difficult and delicate in criticising either his actions or his sayings. But we feel we will be failing in our duty if we did not express candidly what we feel with regard to some of his views, no matter if we court unpopularity in in doing so. Gandhiji has discussed the question of "Varnashrama Dharma" in the "Harijan" of February 18th in which he has arrived at conclusions which are the inevitable result of confused thinking. It will be remembered that Mahatma Gandhi during the South Indian tour a few years ago tried to defend "Varnashrama Dharma" by interpreting that "Varnashrama Dharma" did not prevent him from having a Panchama child under his roof. At that time many social reformers protested that the interpretation of Mahatma Gandhi was wrong, but orthodoxy kept silent because it served the purpose of orthodoxy at that time. But there have been men who entertained a fear that Mahatma Gandhi's support would remove all possibility of effecting reform in Hindu society, as interested persons would misinterpret the views of Mahatma Gandhi on "Varnashrama Dharma." Now it has been proved that orthodoxy is as unbending as ever before towards the question of removal of untouchability, and Mahatma Gandhi also is persistent in believing that "Varnashrama Dharma" is quite different according to his conception from what is practised. But we can only take into account the "Varnashrama Dharma" as it is practised which is based on inferiority and superiority, and therefore Dr. Ambedkar is perfectly right in believing that "Varnashrama Dharma" ought to be demolished if there should be perfect equality among all sections of the Hindus. The "Varnashrama Dharma" that Dr. Ambedkar wants to destroy is not of his imagination, but it is the Varnashrama Dharma, rather "Adharma" of the present day, that he wants to destroy. We feel that "Varnashrama Dharma" of Mahatma Gandhi is an imaginary one. It cannot be either followed or practised, but it can be had as an impracticable ideal. We believe the only manner by which we can effect social reform is by taking a bold step in demolishing that pernicious and harmful institution which is called wrongly the "Varnashrama Dharma." We wonder why a man of the position of Mahatma Gandhi should be so much afraid of orthodoxy. He is willing to wound but afraid to strike.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Discussion on Railway Budget

Representation of Muslims in Ry. Services

Suggestion for a Separate Public Services Commission

ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Delhi, Feb. 26.

In the Legislative Assembly debate on the Railway Budget, the question of representation of Muslims in the Railway Services formed the subject of keen discussion.

Mr. Maswood Ahmed refuted the suggestion that Muslims were backward in matters of literacy and challenged Anglo-Indians to compete with Muslim graduates. Let there be one standard fixed as minimum qualification for Railway Service and he would be prepared to produce any number of men for it. At present what happened was that Government kept Muslims in hopes and had given them toys to play with.

Sir Abdulla Suhrawardy: That is reforms.

Mr. Maswood Ahmed, when Bhai Parmanand himself is prepared to give twenty-five per cent of jobs to Muslims then we Muslims are thankful to him and are prepared to accept it. They are prepared to go from one Province to another for employment.

Sardar Pant Singh on behalf of Sikhs who were thirteen per cent of the Punjab population urged adequate representation of his community in the Northwest Railway Service.

Myaw Myint (Burma) opposed the motion as he stood for nationalism. Describing himself as a majority community man in Burma and minority community man in India and further as a spectator of the greatest tragedy of communalism, he observed that unless they all accustomed themselves to think in terms of the nation and not of communites he shuddered to think what would happen to India as a nation and as a country (cheers). This he desired to emphasise especially as the reforms were appearing on the Indian horizan.

Mr. Maswood Ahmed: A good deal depends on Sir Joseph' Bhore in respect of Railways.

Myaw Myint: Mr. Joseph Bhore will be Railway Member for a short time only but we are in charge of the nations destinies for a longer time (cheers).

Dewan Bahadur A. Ramaswami Mudaliar supported the cut motion as he stood for representation of all communities in the Services. While being in general agreement with Myaw Myint for national mindedness he did not agree that any vicious principle was suggested by demanding representation of all communities in the Services. Such a principle was in force in the constitu tion of several self-government dominions and colonies. In South Africa France and Canada, Dewan Bahadur Ramaswami Mudaliar quoted from the Canadian constitution to show that there was communal representation even in Cabinets.

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer on a point of order objected to the question of representation in Cabinets to being dragged into the Debate on paucity of Muslims in Indian Railway Services.

Sir Hari Singh Gour, Chairman, ruled that Dewan Bahadur Ramaswami Mudaliar's remarks were too far wide of the subject.

Continuing Dewan Bahadur Mudaliar maintained that in various other countries the distribution of offices was based on geographical considerations and on claims of race religion special financial and other interests and that that it was not an innovation that was being applied to India in particular.

Bhai Parmanand asked if in the Canadian Railways appointments were made on the basis of representation for Roman Catholics and Protestants.

Dewan Bahadur Ramasami Mudaliar replied: "Not only are appointments made on grounds of race and community in Canada but in other countries as well. Bhai Parmanand is wanting to commit me and my forty million non-Brahmin brethren in South India to the view he propounds as being general view without adequate knowledge of all facts. (Hear, hear). I have the authority of the illustrious members of the National Congress and Round Table Conference delegates whether they belong to Hindus or Muslims for the statement that for the happines of India and future success of any constitution the claims of various communities in the services must be recognised as elementary principle.

Proceeding Mr. Mudaliar suggested the constitution of a separate Public Services Commission which should be given rules for recruitment for Railways on basis of limited form of competition and that communities that should be given representation in certain proportions or in certain rotation should be specified.

At this stage the Assembly adjourned for lunch.

Dewan Bahadur Mudaliar continuing referred to the communal discontent regarding promotions in services and suggested the setting up of promotion Boards on British models. In regard to retrenchment and grievance of minority communities the speaker would like the creation of staff councils and ventured to think that if his suggestion were accepted time of the future legislature would be saved. The present conditions bred discontent, demoralised the Services and produced inefficiency. His suggestions would create a sense of security among the Services and he urged upon Sir Joseph Bhore who he said enjoyed the confidence of all sections of the House to take up the matter and lay the foundations of greater unified India.

Mr. Ranga Iyer refuted the statement that Mr. Mudaliar's scheme would lead to national solidarity. He characterised Mr. Mudaliar's suggestions as demand for another communal award. He said that there was already reaction in the Services but this reaction would be aggrevated a hundredfold by the acceptance of Mr. Mudaliar's proposals. He asserted that there had been no communal representation in Services in England though there we Jews and Catholics had suffered being in a minority. Mr. Mudaliar had failed to give figures for such representation in Canada. The rotation system preached by Mr. Mudaliar had created enough mischief in Madras. The speaker would not like its extension in other parts of India. He could not deny justice being done to Mussalmans but said that justice to Mussalmans should not be injustice to Hindus and would not like majorities converted into minorities. The speaker therefore opposed communal representation in Services and anticipated that Mussalmans in future would be of his frame of mind. He had faith in nationalism but the path chalked out by Mr. Mudaliar would not lead to nationalism but disruption. The speaker quoted the Donoughmore Report on Ceylon Constitutional Reform which opposed communal representation the principle of communal representation in services however had been accepted by the Government and was no in dispute any longer. He however would not like it to be aggravated as suggested by Mr. Mudaliar. Freedom was retained in ancient Rome and Greece by suppression of communalism

(Continud on page 7)

Heavy Snow in England

Rail and Road Traffic Dislocated

WELSH TOWNS CUT OFF

(BRITISH OFFICIAL WIRELESS)

Rugby, February 25—

Although temperature had risen to day in most parts of the British Isles, London is exceptionally snow covered as a result of the worst snow blizzard experienced for many years. Strong southeast gale is still blowing in the channel and heavy weather is being experienced round most coasts. In South Wales and Western England snow was particularly heavy and both rail and road traffic were severely dislocated and hundreds of telegraph and telephone wires were out of order. Conditions have also been particularly severe in Ireland. Nearly all week-end sporting fixtures have had to be cancelled including the International Rugby Match at Dublin between Ireland and Scotland. Scottish team arrived in Dublin after a stormy passage across the Irish Channel fifteen hours late. Large towns in South Wales are cut off by rail through the latter part of yesterday and during last night several trains being held up enroute by snowdrifts. In Southern England at least snow is rapidly melting to-day.

DISCUSSION ON RAILWAY BUDGET

(Continued from page 6)

and Mr. Ranga Iyer asserted that if Mr. Mudaliar's proposals were accepted it will lury the future constitution. He concluded by saying that the problem could be solved without adding to the difficulties of the country.

Sir Henry Gidney said that they had listened to flights of oratory in which Mr. Mudaliar had been called a snake charmer but judging from rotatory movement Mr. Ranga Iyer seemed to be the snake that was charmed (Laughter). The speaker repudiated the attack on Mr. Mudaliar and testified to the service rendered by him at the Round Table Conference for which the country should be grateful (applause). Mr. Ranga Iyer had not understood the system of rotation in Madras which was really responsible for elimination of communalism in that Presidency. The speaker did not understand Mr. Manwood Ahmed's phrase "European cum Anglo Indian". Was this a new community?

Mr. Neogy: Why do you sit there?

Sir Henry Gidney: That is my business (laughter).

Mr. Maswood Ahmed had mentioned some decimals but if he waited for 1933 figures he would find that Muslim representation had gone considerably up because special officers had been deputed to bring this about in all Railways. What they wanted was not Muslim M. A.s and B. A.s which Mr. Maswood Ahmed when offered. Let them go to the Bar and become members of the Assembly. (Laughter). They wanted men trained mechanically in special schools which should be started for the purpose. Sir Henry Gidney tried to ridicule Mr. Ranga Iyer's quotations from Mr. Edwin Montague whereon Mr. Ranga Iyer said: "May I remind him of the Christian principle, never speak ill of the dead". Sir Henry Gidney retorted "May I remind him "Never quote the dead". (laughter).

Sir Henry Gidney finally supported the claims of Muslims for larger share in Railway services.

Mr. Yamin Khan quoted the speeches of Pandit Malaviya and Mr. Jinna in the Assembly made a few years ago on a similar cut motion favouring increased representation of Muslims in Railway services. He did not agree with those who talked of efficiency because he thought that tests held by Government for recruitment were wrong. The best solution of the problem was mutual understanding between the communities. He advised the House not to press to division this question.

Mr. C. P. Colvin in his maiden speech trying to remove misapprehensions admitted that a greater proportion of Muslim representation at present in the services were employed in the inferior ranks. The Railway Board too felt that representation of Muslims in the Subordinate services was inadequate and were trying to adapt special steps in order to improve it. Owing to retrenchment and loss in traffic there was practically no recruitment in the last two or three years and hence no appreciable communal representation was possible. Mr. Hassan's report was under consideration and it was not possible to make an early announcement. Certain minor recommendations in this report were communicated to the Agents of different Railways and their opinions were still awaited. He quoted figures at length in order to refute the accusation that the Railway Board had failed to carry out their obligations as regards Muslims.

Mr. Shafee Bandi thanked Mr. Mudaliar for the constructive suggestion in asking for a Railway Service Commission and asked for a definite answer on the point. He warned the Government that educated youngmen were being experated owing to closing of entry to Government services and hoped that Government would find ways and means as early as possible.

RAILWAY MEMBER'S REPLY

Sir Joseph Bhore assured that the Government were honestly doing all they could on the subject, but no specific action on Mr. Hasan's report was yet possible. The chief reason for this delay was that the Government were trying to devise a consolidated solution on the matter of communal representation generally, which would be applicable to all departments of Government, and not only to the Railway. In this connection, he referred to the reply given by the Home Member a few days ago, and hoped that it would not be long before early conclusion on the matter was reached.

As for a Railway Service Commission, the Commerce Member said that the suggestion was most important, and the House should not expect any pronouncement from him at present. He hoped that the enunciation of certain principles, which the Government were formulating, would remove all reasonable grounds for complaints.

Mr. Maswood Ahmed, replying, wanted equal justice for Muslims as well as other communities. He asked leave to withdraw his motion. Mr. Amarnath Dutt pressed for division. However, when the cut motion was put to the House, it was lost.

As it was already five, the guillotine was applied and the rest of the demands were agreed to one after another.

The House adjourned till Monday.

NAME-PLATE OF GERMAN CRUISER

TO BE HANDED TO PRESIDENT HINDENBURG

(BRITISH OFFICIAL WIRELESS)

Rugby, February 25:—

The Australian Minister in London Mr. Stanley Bruce leaves for Berlin on Monday to hand to President Hindenburg the name plate of the famous German Cruiser Funen which was destroyed by the Australian Cruiser "Sydney" on the 9th November 1914. The presentation is being made as a token of good will on the part of Australian Government.

FIFTH TEST MATCH

ENGLAND 418 FOR 8 WICKETS

(BRITISH OFFICIAL WIRELESS)

Rugby, February 25:—

In the fifth test match at Sydney at the close of play scores were Australian first innings 436.

England first innings 418 for 8. Hammand 101, Larwood 98, Leyland 42, Ames 4, Paynter 9, Wyatt 51, Allen not out 25 Extras 14.

Finance Member's Budget Speech

Favourable Financial Condition

Restoration of Salary Cut Defended

WHY LAND REVENUE REMISSION WAS DISALLOWED

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

REVISED ESTIMATE 1932-33.

	Lakhs
Opening Balance	— 1,71
Revenue	—16,89
Expenditure	—16,26
Difference	63

BUDGET ESTIMATE 1933-34

	Lakhs
Opening Balance	Rs. 293,44
Revenue	Rs. 1726·71
Expenditure	Rs. 1722·39
Closing Balance	Rs. 271·40

MADRAS, Feb. 26,

The Hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes, Finance Member, presented the Budget, in the Legislative Council yesterday morning. The following is the full texts of his speech :—

Sir, I propose, before discussing in detail the Estimates that are now to be laid before the House, to give, as is customary, a review, as succinctly as possible, of the affairs of the Presidency during the financial year that is just about to close. I shall touch only on such topics as have a bearing on our financial or economic position. The monsoons have upon the whole been favourable and several districts, notably in the Central and South-Central areas of the Presidency, which had for some years been suffering from inadequate rains, received in this year more copious supplies. At the same time, the year has not been marked by those disastrous floods or rain-bursts which marred the record of its immediate predecessors. The South-West monsoon made its appearance in some strength during the month of May, somewhat untimely; considerable falls occured on the West-Coast and the Circars during July and during August the rains, though comparatively light, extended generally throughout the Presidency. Upon the whole, the season was favourable and the total extent both of wet and dry crops was considerably above the average and the extent cropped in the preceding year. The North-East monsoon was favourable and the rainfall was above the average throughout the Presidency, except in Kurnool and Cuddapah, Nellore and Chittoor, districts. We had very heavy rain in November, but the floods thereby caused in the Tanjore district, by which a number of tanks and channels were breached, did not, upon the whole, result in extensive loss of crop. Among the works which it is proposed to take up in the ensuing year will be found several designed to improve the drainage and mitigate the flooding from which parts of the Delta suffer. Only in an area of about 900 square miles in the neighbourhood of Bellary was there in the early months of the year scarcity which at one time threatened to develop into famine. At the earlier stage work was afforded by the expansion of road and water-supply works under the direction of the District Board with special allotments from the Government. Relief was also given to the villages affected by extensive remissions or postponement of revenue, and of loan repayments. By the month of May test-works under Famine Code conditions were organized in seven centres, but the favourable rains in July and August, which continued into September, relieved the situation and enabled the closure of the works from October last.

2. Economically, as the House knows, the Presidency continued to languish under the universal trade depression. There seems little hope of a marked or general improvement in trade unless a forward step can be taken in the matter of war debts which is to form one of the principal topics of business at the International conference in April next. So far as our domestic affairs are concerned, there are a few hopeful features which may be mentioned; thus the decline in our foreign trade which has been so marked for two years, seems at least to have been arrested, and its total value for the first 11 months of 1932 was practically unchanged as compared with the corresponding period of 1931. This, no doubt, was due to the abnormal export of gold, but, apart from this, there are some hopeful signs; traffic in some important articles of merchandise has somewhat revived and coasting trade shows an all-round increase. There was also an increase in the number of new companies registered. The increase to which I shall presently allude in the revenue under REGISTRATION and STAMPS is to some extent an indication of returning business activities. The disquieting feature of the situation, viz., the continued decline in prices of food grains, however still continues and though it may have benefited the poorer classes has adversely affected those of the more well-to-do whose incomes are drawn from the land.

3. Politically the year so far as this Province is concerned, has been uneventful on the whole, but the possibility of a renewal of civil disobedience activities is not yet removed, and cannot be left out of account.

ACCOUNT OF THE YEAR 1931—1932.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

4. Before dealing in detail with the Estimates that are now for the consideration of the House, I have a few preliminary observations to offer. The year 1932—1933, the Revised Estimate for which I am about to submit to the House, has witnessed, in great measure, the effect of those efforts at a retrenchment, which the Government undertook in response to what may be described as a clear mandate from the House expressed in the course of the debates on the Budget of 1931—1932. That mandate was enforced by the signs of serious collapse under every head of revenue which became manifest in the early months of the same year, and led us in the Revised Estimate for that year to anticipate a decline in revenue of no less than Rs. 187·61 lakhs. In my Budget Speech for 1932—1933 it was expected that, as against a revenue deficiency of Rs. 187·61 lakhs, we should in the year achieve savings in expenditure of Rs. 129·30 lakhs, and, in the result, we anticipated a revenue deficit of Rs. 50·74 lakhs. We have now the actual accounts figures for 1931—1932 which show that while our revenue has come out better than we expected, mainly under the head of EXCISE where the reduction was less by Rs. 20 lakhs, our efforts at curtailing expenditure were also more successful than we anticipated and have given us savings of Rs. 142·17 lakhs against Rs. 129·30 lakhs, a betterment of Rs. 12·87 lakhs. The result has been that we have closed 1931—1932 with a small surplus of Rs. 5·41 lakhs. It is perhaps worth while, before quitting this part of the subject, to observe that, upon the whole, the aim of the Government and of the Retrenchment Committee to achieve a reduction of 8 per cent in the year was attained.

CAPITAL AND DEBT HEADS.

5. I need not inflict upon the House details of the accounts figures of 1931—1932 for the Capital and Debt heads. The disbursements under these heads include Capital expenditure, not ordinarly charged to current revenues, such as outlay on the construction of irrigation and hydro-electric works, on Government commercial undertakings and on loans and advances to local bodies, cultivators, etc. These were financed partly from loans from the Government of India partly from recoveries of loans and advances repaid and partly from the Provincial balances upon which we drew to the extent of Rs. 57·78 lakhs. In the result we closed the year with a Revenue Account balance of Rs. 170·91 lakhs, very much less than we anticipated in the Budget Estimate for the year but better by Rs. 76 lakhs than we expected at the time of preparing the Revised Estimate. The closing balance of Rs. 170·91 lakhs forms the opening balance of 1932-1933.

REVISED ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 1932—1933.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

6. In the Budget Estimate for 1932-1933 as submitted to the House, we anticipated a balanced budget, the figures for Revenue and Expenditure being alike estimated at Rs. 1,593·61 lakhs. The Revised Estimate for the year fixes the Revenue at Rs. 1,688·79 lakhs and

(Continued on page 11-A)

PASSING SHOW

(BY "JAI BHARATH")

The Reddi Rag is so obsessed with the theory and practice of "licking" that it looks at others through glasses of the same colour. After all that is said and done about the height of human perfection, men seem to have not forgotten some of the animal instincts, which they have imbibed from the animal kingdom. One such is that canine habit which found a brilliant exponent in the "Chronicle" of last Sunday. "Licking the dust," "licking one's feet" are so common in its brains that it is not able to make much difference between the two. The difference is only in a fraction of an inch! I am afraid the new pastime of journalistic mud slinging in which Mr. Reddi has indulged will not be a pleasant one, more so when instead of being a weekly function, it is going to be a daily feature of this city from the beginning of next month. This new role of achieving cheap notoriety was evidently thrust upon him against his wishes. Aristocratic by birth and romantic by temprament—his youthful romance is still fresh in men's memory—he is unsuited to the task assigned to him. He would be wondering what inscrutable purpose of the deity he is worshipping, if at all he does, that had projected him into this sinister maelstorm. Within a few weeks he has realised that it is not a bed of roses. Even with the strong backing up of a number of Dewan Bahadurs, it may not be long before the last straw breaks the camel back. As it is Mr. Reddi does not do much of the drudgery, but he shies at the odium and the unenviable publicity given to him. He has a John the Baptist from the land of cocoanuts, who paves the way for the Master. Between the two it is difficult to say who is unworthy of unlatching the shoe of the other. But this little John does not live on locusts and honey, but on the milk of Mr. Reddi's kindness After he left the editorial chair and other chairs of a now defunct paper the Chamber of District Boards of which Mr. Reddi is the President, came in handy for him.

⁂

Reddy cum Kamma Conferences.

The show that was got up at Krishna is sinister in more ways than one. In the first place the Reddys are in a minority in Krishna District. What was the object in holding a conference in that District? It is obviously to give a philip to and whip up the sub-communal feelings in the coming District Board Elections in favour of a Kamma Raja. The President of the conference, Mr. M. K. Reddy is not a man to mince matters. He wrote his address for the delectation of the Kamma audience and hence his exhuberant exhortation to hold joint conferences of the two communities. The Kamma Ex-Minister was overjoyed at Mr. Reddy's unique performances and original ideas and proposes to erect a statue for Mr. Reddy, after the Krishna District Board elections are over by raising subscriptions from each and every Kamma household in Krishna and Guntur Districts. It would better still if he is recommened for a Nobel prize. In the second place while one Ex-minister is helping his Tamil adherents by his moral and material presence at the time of the elections of District Board Presidents, the other Ex-Minister is trying his very best in the Andhra, to work in his usual way of awakening the sub-communal feelings by such gatherings as we have witnessed in Krishna. Shortly he is to appear in Nellore District in another role viz., as the protector of the oppressed. I am at a loss to know why all these forces that are arraigned in Krishna were not marshalled in Nellore District to support a Reddy gentleman for the Presidentship of the District Board. Why was the redoubtable champion of the Reddys sleeping at the time of Nellore elections? Blood, now-a-days, does not seem to be thicker than water, with at least some people. The gentleman who contested in Nellore was not rich enough to take a few shares in the rag of a paper that was started in Mount Road recently; otherwise both the ex-Ministers might have moved heaven and earth for him!

⁂

Temple Entry.

The Associated Press has created a mild and somewhat sudden surprise in South India by flashing the news of a speech of a South Indian leader that the Temple Entry Bill should be circulated for opinion. Long before the Mahatma dreamt of taking any interest in the "untouchables" the only organised party in this Presidency has been advocating all these reforms on a thousand platforms and South India at least was being prepared by that party for receiving such reforms by way of legislation. If South India—the stronghold of bigotry and so-called orthodoxy, had been stormed and entered long ago, why should further time be wasted in eliciting public opinion. Thanks to Mahatma Gandhi opinion in all India has now veered round in favour of entry. Further postponement of the Bill would only mean that more Brahman Sabhas will be started by interested persons under the aegis of Raja Bahadurs and Dewanas to put forth an artificial agitation against entry. I am sure the South Indian, nay, all-India leader will have very weighty reasons for the pronouncement he has made and until I hear them I reserve further comment.

⁂

Tirupathi Devasthanam Bill.

The Bill is an example of how far artificial agitation can go to wreck an otherwise perfectly legitmate and useful legislation. His Excellency seems to have heen carried away by the super-subtle arguments of the Mylapore coterie and the Bill has been recomitted to the council. There is once more the chance of a life-time to suck the life-blood out of the Mahant, but there it must stop. The council, I hope, will not tolerate anymore the delay in placing this legislation on the statute book passed unanimously by all shades of opinion and express in no uncertain words that it must be brought into force during the lifetime of the present council. I hope too the Rajah Saheb of Bobbili, who has shown during his short regime unequalled qualities of statesmanship and administrative capacity, will pilot the Bill during the present session itself.

CALCUTTA CONGRESS

TO BE FANNED BY GOVERNMENT

(ASSOCIATED PRESS)

New Delhi, Feb. 25.

On enquiries made in official circles with reference to the announcement that the annual session of the Congress would be held in Calcutta on the 31st March, it is now understood that the Government see no reason to depart from the position they took up last year that the Congress session cannot be allowed while the Congress stands pledged to civil disobedience.

GREETINGS TO THE "OBSERVER"

Dr. P. VARADARAJULU NAIDU writes on 22nd February 1933:—

I have seen a copy of your weekly 'Sunday Observer.' The same is being reviewed in Tamil Nadu to-day. I am glad you have got a paper in your hands and I need not say. I wish it every success, but I would request you to have the greatest restraint on your feelings when you criticise men and things.

Mr. RAMADAS PANTULU Advocate, Mylapore, Madras, writes on 23rd February 1933 as follows:—

Dear Mr. Balasubramania Mudaliar, I thank you for sending me a copy of the first issue of your "Sunday Observer." Please enlist me as a subscriber for 3 copies of your journal and send them to my address. I enclose herewith a cheque for Rs. 6 towards the subscription.

I congratulate you on the courage and candidness with which you are conducting the journal, and exposing intrigues and malicious propaganda in a manner worthy of admiration.

I wish you all success.

Mr. H. M. JAGNNATHAM, M. L. C., writes:—

My Dear Friend,—I must congratulate you on the manner you have commented on men and matters. In fact a journal like yours is long over due, and I hope you will maintain a high standard and the same attitude towards politics and personalities. I wish you and your journal a long and careful career.

Dear Sir,—We welcome in our midst the birth of a glorious weekly entitled the "Sunday Observer" which is to make its debut early this Sunday. If as we understand from the Editor of the paper the object of the weekly being to clean the minds of the public, to purify the thoughts and to elevate the higher ideals of life, we are certainly not far from according the warmest welcome to this splendid organ of the week. We are now in the midst of turmoil and political chaos and politics in general which play so dirty a part, the appearance of a weekly of this kind is certainly a better means to keep the political machinery in order and the public mind in a way pure and we are then sure that we will be drifting towards the right path.

Without offering any more lengthy preamble we are now in a height of ectasy to learn that such an enterprise is taken in a right direction and may we then sincerely pray the Almighty to Shower His choicest blessings on this Organ and pray for its long life.

G. M. RANGANAYAKULU,

SAIDAPET, 18-2-33 Secretary, Saidapet Club.

RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYED

PRINCE OF WALES'S INTEREST

(BRITISH OFFICIAL WIRELESS)

Rugby, February 25:—

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales who is taking keen practical interest in voluntary efforts to provide occupation for the unemployed and in this connection had already visited several of the largest Industrial areas in England, Wales and and Northern Ireland will towards the end of next month pay a visit of a similar character to Scotland. He will go to Glasgow, Clyde Bank and several places in Lanarkshire and Fife Coalfields as well as Dundee. The visit will be entirely informal and last three days. Arrangements are being made by the National Council of Social Services of which the Prince is Patron.

BURMA COUNCIL

NO CONFIDENCE MOTION AGAINST FOREST MINISTER DEFEATED

(ASSOCIATED PRESS)

Rangoon, Feb. 25.

The Burma Legislative Council resumed debate on the no-confidence motion against Forest Minister, arising out of the token cut by U Boe Nyun of the People's Party and, after about three hours debate, the House rejected the motion by majority of thirteen votes. Several Burmese members supported and opposed the motion.

Mr. Gangasingh supported the motion while Khan Bahadur Falli Mohamed opposed opining that Sir Joseph was the best man for the post.

Mr. Beethgraveley, Chief Secretary, speaking on the constitutional aspect of the question, said that it was of paramount importance at the moment that there should be a stable Government and a stable ministry. The speaker said that no single party in the House could form the Ministry without coalition. As long as the ministry commanded the majority in the House it was constitutional. A coalition ministry in the present circumstances was inevitable.

Sir Joseph winding up the debate observed that during the last ten years he did his best to serve his country. If he had committed mistakes they were honest ones.

The motion was then pressed to division and lost, forty-two voting for and fifty-five against. Four Europeans two representing the Burma Chamber one Trades Association and one nominated remained neutral.

The Council adjourned for lunch.

PATHAN FACTIONS IN PESHAWAR

HOUSES SET FIRE TO AND INMATES BURNT TO DEATH

(Associate Press)

Peshawar, Feb., 26.

Brutal and inhuman case of arson resulting in loss of human life and cattle is reported from Hasara. It is reported that previous enmity existed between rival factions of Pathans over a land belonging to one party recently. Rival's houses were locked up and set fire to. The inmates were burned to death. Police are making vigorous investigation but no arrests have so far been reported.

It is understood that additional Police have been sent to disturbed areas to restore peace and order.

Similar brutal crimes are also reported to have been committed in a village in Dara Ismail Khan recently resulting in considerable loss of human life and property. The culprits have hitherto not been traced.

"HARIJAN" FOR POOR HARIJANS

GANDHIJI RECEIVES A DONATION

(ASSOCIATED PRESS)

Poona, Feb. 25.

In response to his appeal for donations to enable him to send free copies of "Harijan" to poor deserving English-knowing Harijan students, Mr. Gandhi has received a cheque for Rs. 400 for sending hundred such free copies. Mr. Gandhi regards this as an adequate response to his appeal for such donations as with this total, the funds at his disposal enables him to send 150 copies. He does not desire more until all these copies have been accounted for.

H. E. THE VICEROY

(ASSOCIATED PRESS)

New Delhi, Feb. 25.

H. E. the Viceroy received Her Highness the Maharani of Baroda. His Excellency held a meeting of the Executive Council today. H. E. the Governor of Bengal has left the Viceroy's House.

THE young man had just proposed.

"No!" she replied. "A thousand times no!"

"Well, don't rub it in," he retorted. "I only asked you once."

Great Loss to Literature

Passing of two giants

Careers of Galsworthy and Saintsbury

Mr. John Galsworthy, O. M., whose death was announced recently was the interpreter in drama and in fiction of a definite phase of English social history. As he himself explained in one of the illuminating prefaces to the collected edition of his works, he came to artistic self-expression just at the date when the post-Darwinian sense of flux and of the relativity of accepted standards, which had overthrown the "unselfconscious" earlier Victorian acquiescence in "the conventions, morals, standards, ideals, and enterprises of their day," was beginning to utter in literature its challenge to nearly all accepted values. It was a period that endured roughly from 1885 to the War.

After that came a time in which, as he confessed, genially, "we who were the later and ironic extremists of that challenge are challenged in our turn, because we hold by our child the social conscience, which is now voted a bore" To the revolt that turned on "the emergence of the introspective social conscience" had succeeded a revolt which held that "the business of the thinker and the artist is a sort of unrelated, frank, utter self-expression." From that time the author of *Strife* and *Justice* began like his own Forsytes to "date."

Galsworthy was born in 1867 at Coombe, in Surrey. He came of an ancient and well-to-do Devon family, and had the upbringing of his class at Harrow and at New College, Oxford. His friends remembered him there as "lazy, dressy, sporting," though at Harrow he played in the football XI. and was ultimately captain. He took his degree in law, and in 1890 he was called to the Bar, but seems to have had no intention of serious practice; instead he travelled widely in Russia and Egypt, in Fiji, America, Canada, the Cape, and Australia. It was in a sailing-ship crossing from Adelaide to South Africa that he fell in with a Polish officer of the merchant service, who confessed to a desire to write English books. Ultimately, he produced the half of a story he had written. It was called "Almayer's Folly," and Joseph Conrad always attributed his decision to persevere in writing largely to John Galsworthy's encouragement.

LEARNING HIS CRAFT

Galsworthy himself learned his craft as a writer almost as laboriously as Conrad. "I was writing fiction," he afterwards recalled, "for five years before I could master even its primary technique." Perhaps it was this feeling of immaturity that led him to publish his first four volumes of tales between 1897 and 1901 under the name "John Sinjohn." They were "From the Four Winds," "Jocelyn," "Villa Rubein," and "A Man of Devon." Three years later he published under his own name "The Island Pharisees," a novel in which his gifts as a writer are fully, if still a trifle crudely, displayed, and his philosophy of life is clearly enunciated.

He had discovered in his own soul a curious idealism. With all his natural aptitude for the life of the "patrician," an appreciation of sport, of good living, of the dignity and beauty of country houses, a respect for authority, order, and wide possessions, he was haunted by a sense of the underside of existence, a pity for the sufferers in the social order, for the victims of circumstances and their own character, a sympathy with the adventurers who lose all for the sake of passion or an impracticable ideal. "The Island Pharisees" he truthfully described in later life as "a ragged attempt to present the working of the truth 'the things that are, are wrong,' upon the truth 'the things that are, are right." The book is an indictment, harsher and more intolerant than its author would have made in maturity, of the complacency of English society. The criticism of wealth and respectability is put into the mouth of a figure that recurs in Galsworthy's work, the wastrel Ferrand, with his keen brain and feeble will, who drifts through life as a wanderer, sponging on the sympathetic classes he denounces and explaining that if he had their luck he would appear as a tasteful dilettante.

In 1906 appeared Galsworthy's first great novel, "The Man of Property," which finally took its place as the first instalment of the "saga" of the Forsyte family. It was followed in 1907 by 'The Country House," a study in the ruling class of land, as the Forsytes were a study in the ruling class of money.

PLAYS OF A REFORMER

Just at this time, however, their author's energies were diverted to the theatre, which offered at the moment a unique opening to his talent. The success of Mr. Shaw's plays during the brilliant season of Mr. Granville-Barker at the Court Theatre had brought the drama of social discussion into momentary fashion. In 1906 the production of Galsworthy's *Silver Box* at the Court, with its disquieting picture of the different treatment given by the law to a poor and a rich man guilty of theft, showed that a dramatist of power had arisen with more feeling than Shaw, if less wit, and as keen a sense of social anomalies, if less readiness to offer theories by which they might be remedied. The *Silver Box* was succeeded by Joy, a play on a distasteful theme, which had only a qualified success. But Strife in 1909, with its tense and moving picture of the meaning of a great strike, at once reaffirmed Galsworthy's place among the first dramatists of the day.

The year after the production of Strife the sombre tragedy of Justice was given, and inflicted a real shock on the conscience of the community. The picture of the torture of solitary confinement, when endured by a nervous prisoner, whose crime had not been committed through malice, led to changes in the treatment of prisoners. Looked at from the purely artistic standpoint, Justice, in spite of its dramatic strength, was felt to give too sordid and depressing a vision of life to be quite truthful.

His next group of plays, The Pigeon, The Eldest Son, and The Fugitive, hardly marked an advance of his talent. In them the impulse to paint society in black and to excuse (as through the revolt of Ferrand, who reappears in The Pigeon) the outcasts of society, whether or not they merit forgiveness, tends to mannerism; and in the suicide of the heroine of The Fugitive there is even a streak of melodrama.

It would, perhaps, be accurate to trace from Justice Galsworthy's realization that he could be a worker in the cause of practical reform. In the winter of 1912-13 he carried on a vigorous and effective campaign in the cause of humane slaughtering of animals killed for food. After the war, at the close of which his refusal of a knighthood was made public, he busied himself especially with the cause of international solidarity and the prevention of future hostilities. Two articles from his pen appeared in 'The Times" in 1923, on International Thought," pleading that the leaders of science, finance, and the press should organize themselves to resist any future attempt of Governments to employ them for the ends of national egoism and war. At the same time he became the leading spirit in the P. E. N. Club to promote international thinking, in 1929 he received the Order of Merit, and he was awarded the Nobel prize last year. He was an Honorary Fellow of New College, Oxford, and had honorary degrees from Oxford, Cambridge, and five other universities.

SOCIAL CONTRASTS

During all these years Galsworthy had continued to produce fiction as well as his plays. In "Fraternity" and "The Patrician" he gave two more fine studies of social contrasts, emphasizing his doctrine that "if those who have had luck behaved as if they knew it the chances of revolution would sink to zero." Galsworthy always disclaimed the charge of being a revolutionary, 'a quaint conceit concerning one of the least political of men." He held that aristocracy is still the right principle of government when—as is seldom the case—it means government by the proven, not merely by the assumed, or the hereditary, best. He supported also in "The Freelands" the belief that "England will never be sound and safe till the land is again what it once was, the very backbone and blood of our race." But Galsworthy believed at the same time that 'the aristocratic type of mind is the farthest removed from the artist's type of mind, to whom all is in flux," and in "The Dark Flower' he made a study of the force of passion designed to explode the comfortable 'legend that the good citizen is visited but once in his day by Aphrodite, disguised as a good citizeness in a shower of rice and old shoes." Similarly, in "Saint's progress" he depicts the conflict between orthodoxy and a wider charity in a devout clergyman whose daughter has had a child without being married to her War-time lover.

THE FORSYTE SAGA

But his principal work in fiction after the War (and his highest work as a novelist) was the completion of the great Forsyte Saga, in a short story "The Indian Summer of a Forsyte,' and two long novels, "In Chancery" and "To Let." In this ample framework he could work out in detail his deepest thought, the struggle between the desire for possession and the instinct of beauty that mocks at bolts and locks. The conflict is summed up in the two chief figures of the saga, Soames Forsyte, the harsh, tight-lipped, yet fundamentally brave and solid, champion of property, and Irene, his suffering, rebellious, and finally lost wife. Irene, "never, as the reader may have noticed, present, except through the senses of other characters, is a concretion of disturbing beauty impinging on a possessive world." But the book contains something besides this eternal and insoluble conflict; for, as its author claimed, with reasonable pride, it traces the decline of the upper middle class of the late Victorian years. "Here, pickled in these pages, it lies under glass for strollers in the wide and ill-arranged museum of letters, there it rests, preserved in its own juice, the sense of Property." The Forsyte Saga was prolonged in a group of lighter stories. "The White Monkey," "The Silver Spoon," and "Swan-Song." His last novel was "Flowering Wilderness,' published last year.

The same period that saw the completion of the saga produced a last group of plays, including The Skin Game, Loyalties, Windows, The Forest, and Escape. Of these Loyalties, the most human, was the most successful; whereas Windows, with its implied plea for a worthless woman, led the dramatic critic of The Times to recall Johnson's warning, "Sir, do not accustom your mind to confound virtue and vice.' It is the aptest criticism that can be passed on Galsworthy's social philosophy, which tends to eliminate responsibility from its humanitarian scale of values.

Galsworthy was conscious of the paradoxes of his own nature when he said that "this particular writer has always been given to heartache in the presence of nature in flower. May be that ache is part of the sex instinct—a longing for union or fusion with beauty beheld; or, more rudely, might be called greed—the desire for the perpetual, the intimate possession of loveliness." In that zest of life and beauty, that interest in the activity and stir of society which penetrates all his work, we discern something of the Forsyte, avid this time not of material but of spiritual possession.

The secret of Galsworthy's powerful, luminous style, of his vigorous sense of drama and character, lies in the fierce strength by which he dominates and absorbs wide tracts of life, possessing them as completely as Soames the treasures of his picture gallery, though to far subtler and more fruitful uses. In his wavering sense of moral values, on the other hand, his moods of black pessimism in face of the ills of life, his slightly corrosive belief in the untamable power of passion and temperament we see an element, a source at once of understanding and of weakness, which he symbolized in the disturbing figure of Ferrand. Like the age of which he was the mouthpiece, he felt the menance of catastrophes which he knew no skill to avert.

VISIT

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A DUTY TO POSTERITY

PRESERVATION OF ANCIENT RECORDS

London (By mail)

Sir Charles Peers, Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments under the office of Works and President of the Society of Antiquaries, lectured before the Royal Institution on "The Ancient Monuments of England."

Emphasizing the need for the preservation, so far as this could be secured, of the comparatively inconspicuous records left by prehistoric man, he said that the beginnings of our story were as yet imperfectly understood and we had a duty to posterity, to whom they would be of far greater significance, to hand them down as we found them. From our later Stone Age, about 2500 B.C., we had a connected story to show, and it could be seen that the megalithic culture of long barrows, chambered cairns, and dolmens had at first reached our shores from the south-west. A Second record, beginning about 2000 or 1700 B.C., on the other hand showed that the contacts of Britain with the beaker pottery characteristic of the early Bronze Age came rather through Holland to our eastern coasts.

The repair of prehistoric monuments should be reduced to a minimum, and as a rule should only be considered as auxiliary to archaeological investigations. Stonehenge, which had stood deserted for many years, was slowly falling to pieces when in 1919 the Society of Antiquaries took steeps to prevent further falls. The stones were now secure for long years to come, and the inevitable disturbance of their original setting was atoned for by careful and skilled examination.

VATICAN LIBRARY

Rome, (By Mail)

The rebuilding of that portion of the Vatican Library which collapsed just over a year ago has now been completed, and it only remains to put the last touches to the decorations, which will be an exact copy of those destroyed. The Pope yesterday visited the restored Salone Sistino, and it is stated that this gallery will be re-opened, to the public, in April at the beginning of the Holy Year. The consulting room downstairs for students will not be ready to be re-opened before October.

THE QUEEN TO SEE A TALKING FILM

London (By Mail)

On March 27, the Queen, who has seen many silent films, will see her first talking film when she attends, at the New Gallery, a matinee given in aid of Richmond Hospital. Jack's the Boy is the film which has been chosen for the occasion, and the other items in the programme will all be comedies.

Resourceful Motorist (to policeman who has stopped him): "Forty miles an hour? Do be reasonable, my good fellow! Why' I am just going to the collector's office to pay my income-tax."

U. S. Gangsters Coming to Europe

Inability to find employment

Scotland Yard on the alert

LONDON, (By Mail).

The gangsters are coming to Europe! The "profession" of racketeer in the United States is now reaching saturation point, and surplus gangsters, unable to find employment, are sailing for Britain and other European countries.

Scotland Yard is fully alive to this development, and a special watch is being kept at Plymouth, Southampton and Liverpool to prevent known members of the various American gangs from landing.

Description of men and women whom the American police believe to have left the States have been supplied to detectives who board the great liners, and there is little chance of the better known racketeers setting foot in Britain.

The danger, however, is not that the more notorious figures of Chicago and New York night life will attempt to set up their "business" in this country, but the smaller fry, such as men employed in minor positions in the Al Capone gang before their leader went to jail, are hoping to come here to try their luck.

COUNTERFEIT NOTES.

London and Paris are the two chief hopes of the "exported" gangster.

It is significant, however, that of a gang of the counterfeiters recently arrested in Athens, two were found to be Americans who had not long left the States.

They had brought with them counterfeit notes which were very fine imitations of those of the Federal Reserve Bank.

The gang had got rid of 70,000 dollars' worth of these notes within a few days, just before they were arrested.

It was soon discovered by the Athens police that the counterfeiters had connections and ramifications all over Europe, with a centre in Paris.

"While it is perfectly possible that some American criminals may land in this country their chances of setting up a 'racket' of any sort here are simply nil", said a high police authority.

"The 'racket' system in the States is one by which blackmail is extorted from a given trade or industry.

PERCENTAGE OF PROFITS.

"For instance, laundry proprietors may be forced to pay a certain percentage of their profits each week to a gang to prevent their deliverance being held up and the clothes stolen.

"Any attempt at such racketeering would be stopped in five minutes in this country.

"Nevertheless it is true that there has recently been an influx of American crooks into Europe, and it is for the police of Britain, France, and elsewhere to watch this development very closely."

THE POWER OF THE FLUTE

How Snakes are Charmed

TRICKS OF GIPSIES

Some time ago I came upon an Indian juggler who told me that the idea of a cobra being able to hear the pipe was all twaddle. He admitted though, that legerdemain and twisting himself into knots was more in his line than snake charming, which he only practised to catter to urban tastes, and also to clear the circle of his spectators when they thronged too closely around him; then seizing a cobra by the tail he would twirl it at arm's length and thus never fail to secure ample space for his performance writes Dr. R. L. Spittel in the "Government Apothecaries Annual."

That the common herd of gipsies are imposters I am quite ready to admit, for I have had ample proof of their adroit trickery.

I was once spending the weekend on a coconut estate when a gipsy visited me. I told him that if he or any of his band would come over with their pipes and catch a few wild snakes for me I would pay them a rupee per snake.

The following morning five of them arrived with their chief, who took no part in the subsequent performance. The others went through the usual procedure of divesting themselves of their garments to show that they carried no concealed snakes. They insisted, however, on carrying at the front of their waists, in the event of their being bitten, open pouches containing snake stones and antidotes. The various compartments of these bags they had previously displayed to dispel any suspicion I might have that they harboured snakes.

As we proceeded to a place I was to indicate, the youngest of the group, a lad of sixteen, would every now and then, out of an exuberance of spirits, let out an exultant blast on his pipe in anticipation of the fun. That he had been brought merely as musical ballast was evident.

I instructed the gipsies to keep together to enable me to see for myself the snakes they attracted. The music began and continued in good earnest for some fifteen minutes, when the knot of pipers gradually loosened out. I asked my servant to keep his eye on two while I watched two others. The youngest we agreed to ignore; he was enjoying himself too palpably to be bent on serious work.

THE DISCOVERY

Sathan, a little, young fellow, the most plausible of the lot, quietly approached a heap of cocoanut husks. Squatting down, he peered into it intently, continuing his piping. I surprised a sly glance he cast towards me and marked him the more carefully. My attention was but momentarily diverted, when he suddenly shouted, "pambu, pambu" (snake, snake), and tugged at the tail of a cobra that crept sluggishly among the husks.

"What sort of a snake is this?" said I. "It seems hardly to have the life to move. Let me see its teeth."

The gipsy prized open the poor creature's jaws, and, saying he had already broken the fangs, rubbed the toothless gums so vigorously with a fold of cloth that they bled; he then drew the fabric a time or two along the gums, and only just succeeded in getting it caught on the invisible stumps.

"This won't do," said I. "play again, and catch a real wild one this time not one you have brought."

His feelings were hurt: "Where could the snake have been? Did the dorai not see that I had no snakes on me?"

"Never mind all that, Carry on. And let us see good fangs this time."

The piping was resumed. Sathan was nearing a hut, the door of which was closed; he motioned that it should be opened. This was done. I kept close at his heels as he entered the room. He looked covertly out of the corner of his eye to see where I was, and finding me near him continued piping awhile and came out again without making a capture.

"PAMBU, PAMBU"

Almost immediately there was a Cry of "pambu pambu" from one of the others, and another cobra was dragged out of a litter of fallen branches but it too carried no conviction; as I told them.

They chewed a quid; grumbling; the job was not as easy as they had anticipated.

Again they sent forth their droning melody and soon another cobra was shown me slinking into the thatched roof, and captured. This one may have been wild: it possessed fangs; but I was not on the spot when it was first seen.

"This won't do" I said. "I am not convinced yet. Give me your pouches, let me examine them.

"Have we not already shown them," they sullenly protested.

"Let's have another look at them."

"We can't" said Sathan. "We are going away."

"All right. But you will not get a cent from me."

They sulked and mumbled a lingo that was Greek to me. Then they made as if to pipe again.

"Don't" I warned. "You can clear out unless you let me inspect your bags,"

"We can't do that."

"Very well then go away."

Thinking better of it, three of them handed me their pouches, which I found had no snakes. Sathan, however though he again showed the contents of his pouch, would not place it in my hands; nor would he let me scrutinise it to my satisfaction. The inference was obvious; he had a third snake concealed.

We returned to where their old chief rested and I explained to him the impasse; he listened passively without comment.

A CAREFUL TEST

I then told them they could only convince me of their bona fides and earn their reward if they lured a snake after leaving their bags behind. Sathan would not consent to this, but the other three half heartedly undertook the task, I led them to another spot. They piped till the lungs of even the youngest of them ached but no snake came.

On another occasion I took an incorrigible sceptic many miles with me to convince him of the powers of a band of gipsies that had been specially recommended to me. Three performers awaited us. Having shown us that they carried no snakes about them, or in their bags which they retained on the usual plea, they performed on their bins for about an hour and a half. In all they captured three cobras and a small Russell's viper—two of them with fangs intact and poison bags full of venom; but the only snake that was demonstrably well beyond the least doubt was a cobra that came down a tall tree surrounded by dense scrub in full face of us all. This the sceptic dismissed as an accidental happening!

The moral of these experiences is that if ever you have the opportunity of testing a gipsy deprive him of his bag or inspect it, for yourself before allowing him to carry it, and follow his movements very closely.

As I have said before, not every gipsy can catch snakes in this way; but there are those who undoubtedly can. Any one who observed the gravity, concentration, and witchfulness of the skilled gipsy at this work cannot but be convinced that he believed in the power of his flute.

THREE YEARS TO LIVE!

HOW THE CHIEF SCOUT "GETS THINGS DONE"

FEVERISH AGE.

LONDN (BY MAIL)

Lord Baden-Powel, the Chief Scout, told an audience in University College, London, how he lives in "eras" of three years. He said:—

"I have habitually given myself three more years to go. That makes me hurry and get things done, and get all the enjoyment I can out of life, because in three years it will be too late. It is a very good incentive, because some day it will come true".

In a discourse on success the Chief Scout defined the state as "Happiness."

Riches, position, power, or fame, did not mean success, he said.

"We see in these days the feverish endeavour going on among men and women to beat records, and so to gain fame and notoriety.

"Before attaining it they seem to think that this means success. When they have won it, they find that it does not bring happiness, but only leads to further restless unsatisfied craving for more.

"There is a craze in the nation, from top to bottom, to get rich, and to get rich quickly if possible through a lucky chance—in the sweepstakes, or tote clubs or Stock Exchange.

"Why work when by a lucky win you may make thousands?—is the notion.

JEANETTE IN A BRITISH FILM

MISS MACDONALD TO STAR WITH HERBERT MARSHALL

Jeanette MacDonald, Maurice Chevalier's leading lady, and Herbert Marshall, star of "Trouble in Paradise," are to make a film together at Elstree, writes the "Daily Mirror"

This is the first move in the Anglo-American film which would be the next development in the talkie situation.

Mr. Hubert Marsh, of British and Dominions Films, told me yesterday that negotiations for the acquisition of the first story to be filmed were on the point of completion. Mr. Samson Raphaelson, Lubitsch's righ-hand man, is coming from Hollywood to supervise.

The services of an eminent American director, cameraman and film editor are being negotiated, and every effort is to be made to produce a picture comparable with Hollywood's best.

As a gesture of goodwill, United Artists, one of the greatest American film distribution organisations, are contributing a substantial cash advance on account of renting fees from the U. S. market.

Miss MacDonald told me she was delighted with the opportunity of making a picture in this country.

After this film, which is to commence production in May, Mr. Marshall goes to Hollywood to make another film for Paramount, returning to England later to make another picture with the British and Dominion Company.

40-HOUR WEEK

ALL GOVERNMENTS IN FAVOUR EXCEPT BRITAIN.

LONDON (BY MAIL)

The Tripartite Preparatory Conference held under the auspices of the International Labour Office came to an end on Wednesday after adopting a report to be presented to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, writes, the Geneva correspondent of "The Manchester Guardian".

The majority by which it was decided to recommend a reduction of the hours of labour to forty a week, with the maintenance of the wage level, as a remedy for unemployment included the representatives of all the Governments of the chief industrial countries of Europe represented at the Conference except the British Government.

The representative of the British Government and the employers' group, who acted together throughout the Conference, were uncompromising in their opposition to the proposal, and their opposition was purely negative. They were unable to suggest any alternative remedy. They seemed to most observers here unable to grasp what appears evident to most people—namely; that the present economic system has broken down on the side of distribution and that, unless some better method of distribution can be devised, the whole system itself will inevitably come to ruin.

The attitude of the employers and the British Government delegate is severely criticised in international quarters here.

Robot Radio

Secrets in The Ether: Amazing New Discovery

A stir is being made in radio circles by the invention of a thirty-two-year-old wireless engineer who confidently claims to have discovered the long-sought-for secret of "non-jamminable" wireless transmission.

By means of this remarkable invention, he declares, a whole fleet of aeroplanes or ships may be safely guided without a human hand touching them. Other wireless stations operating on the same wavelength cannot affect the controlling instrument, and it is equally immune to atmospherics. The idea opens up vast possibilities.

"With this device," Mr. Charles Keeling, A. M. I. R. E., the inventor, told a *Tit-Bits* representative, "the operator at sea will no longer be bewildered by numerous signals all coming through at the same time. No longer will he have to strain every aural nerve in an attempt to pick out—merely by the sound—the signal intended for him. And no longer need his nerves be jarred by the crackling of atmospherics.

NO COMPLICATED CODES

"Business houses, instead of having to get their private messages sent thro in complicated codes, would be able to send them through in plain English; they could then be typed out by a radio-controlled typewriter at the other end, automatically sealed, and sent through without a human eye seeing them (barring the operator's), a human ear hearing them, or a human hand transcribing them!

"The messages could, if required, be sent through at a frequency far too high for the ordinary listener even to suspect their presence in the ether.

"It is, however, not essential to use this high frequency. Messages may be sent on an ordinary wave-band, for to any unauthorized person picking them up they would be a meaningless jumble. No code is necessary. It is a combination that does the trick, and only a machine set to react to that combination can make sense of the messages.

"On land wires, at the present moment, I believe that it is possible to send about eight messages simultaneously. With this new device it should be possible to send approximately a hundred.

THE CREWLESS HELICOPTER

"Remote control will cease to be a hazardous experiment, and will in time become an everyday occurence in the commercial world, Anything from a typewriter to an airship may be brought under prefect control by radio. Just two men in a 'mother' plane could safely guide a whole fleet of freight-laden ships or aeroplanes to their destination with not a living pilot on any of them! This non-jammable device would (in conjunction with the new robot pilot which the Air Ministry has on its secret list) perform such tasks with an accuracy hitherto undreamed of. When aerial filling-stations become a general necessity, a radio controlled helicopter, crewless, will make a perfect filling-station.

"In non-jammable radio there is no delay between the transmitted signal and the required action. The device has been fully tested and approved by experts."

Mr. Keeling, though still young, has had a life crammed full of technical experience. He first started dabbling in electricity at the age of ten At sixteen he settled down to serious experimenting. At the age of eighteen he became a wireless operator at sea, having been trained by the Marconi Company. After the war—only just out of his 'teens—he was appointed as technical adviser to a large syndicate interested in wireless control. But after the company had spent £30,000 in experimental work the secret still eluded them, and they were eventually forced to close down.

Undaunted, the young inventor carried on with private research in his London laboratory. Ten more years passed. Now, at long last, he has achieved his object.

FINANCE MEMBER'S BUDGET SPEECH

(Continued from page 7)

the Expenditure at Rs. 1,626·02 lakhs, giving a revenue surplus of Rs. 62·77 lakhs. In other words, the results have been very much better than we expected at the beginning of the year. We felt bound at that time to take a very conservative view of the immediate revenue prospects in view of the recent collapse under every revenue head; and, as explained at the time, we took no credit for any additional revenue from the resettlement in certain taluks of Malabar. In the Revised Estimate under the head V LAND REVENUE, we now budget for a slight betterment of Rs. 2·34 lakhs, this being the net result mainly of improved receipts amounting to about Rs. 2·40 lakhs from sales of waste lands, recovery of survey charges, and of a decrease under refunds, set off against decreases of revenue due to the alteration of kistbandi in Coimbatore by which Land Revenue amounting to Rs. 7 lakhs will not be due for collection until after the close of the year; and to allowance having been made in estimating for possible shot collections on account of the economic depression. It is under EXCISE, however, that the most marked improvement accrues amounting to Rs. 62·19 lakhs; this represents a continuation of the recovery indicated by the actuals for 1931-1932 to which I have already alluded; the betterment is shared, though in less marked degree, by other heads which reflected in 1931-1932 the results of the general depression. Thus STAMPS have recovered to the extent of Rs. 15·97 lakhs and REGISTRATION by Rs. 3·90 lakhs.

7. On the other hand, in the Revised Estimate for 1932-1933 provision for increased expenditure as compared with the Budget Estimate is made amounting to Rs. 32·41 lakhs necessitated partly by additional appropriations, and supplementary grants voted by the Council during the year: provision is also made for paying a large amount as compensation to local bodies under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. Among the items of increased expenditure may be mentioned, under EDUCATION, Rs. 1·80 lakhs, being part restoration of the reduction in teaching grants, and Rs. 3·71 lakhs on account of building and and equipment grants not provided for in the Budget Estimate; under PUBLIC HEALTH additional provision is made for rural and other water-supply (Rs. 2·79 lakhs) and other minor grants. Retrenchments and other savings effected account for about Rs. 14 lakhs and are shared by several departments, GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, POLICE, MEDICAL, AGRICULTURE and INDUSTRIES.

A sum of about Rs. 6·69 lakhs has been written back from Capital to Revenue, representing expenditure on Forest commercial undertakings which have been de-commercialised, and a similar write-back has been made of the balance of advances to finance commutation of pensions made in previous years from the Capital to Revenue Account. This is of the nature of a book transaction; the expenditure under the Capital Account is correspondingly reduced.

Under the head 43. FAMINE there is increased expenditure of Rs. 2·75 lakhs due to relief operations in the Bellary district. These were finally closed down in October 1932. and have cost us from the start, including land revenue remission granted and special expenditure incurred, before the opening of test-works, through the agency of the District Board, about Rs. 8 lakhs.

CAPITAL AND DEBT HEADS.

8. Coming to the Capital and Debt heads, 1932-1933, the sum borrowed for the Cauvery-Mettur Project was Rs. 100·38 lakhs, of which, after adjusting to credit of the Revenue balance Rs. 19·76 lakhs advanced in the preceding year, a sum of Rs. 9·91 lakhs in expected to remain unspent, to be carried forward to next year's account of the project. For the Pykara, Kattalai and Cochin Harbour (stage IV) works, we borrowed from the Provincial Loans Fund during the year Rs. 49·85 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 12·88 lakhs will, it is estimated, remain unspent; the greater part of this is covered by the sum of Rs. 10 lakhs for the Cochin Harbour where it has not been found possible within the year to make a start with the stage IV works.

REVENUE CLOSING BALANCE IN THE YEAR 1932—1933.

9. As the nett result of the year's administration it is expected that we shall close 1932-1933 with a Provincial balance of Rs. 293·44 lakhs as compared with the Budget Estimate of Rs. 130·37 lakhs. The increase is due partly to the betterment in our position in 1931-1932, which has continued to be manifest in 1932-1933, and partly to the excess receipts in the CAPITAL SECTION from which a sum of Rs. 40 lakhs not required for expenditure in that section has been passed into the Provincial balances.

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 1933—1934.

REVENUE ACCOUNT PART—I.

10. I now come to Part I of the Estimates for 1933-1934 as compared with the Budget Estimate for 1932-1933. The Revenue estimates show a betterment of Rs. 128·07 lakhs, the figure being Rs. 1,721·68 lakhs as against Rs. 1,593·61 lakhs. The expenditure under Part I (i.e., expenditure against standing sanctions) stands at Rs. 1,646·26 lakhs against Rs. 1,593·61 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 52·65 lakhs. The corresponding figures, as compared with the Revised Estimate for 1932-1933, are Revenue *plus* Rs. 32·89 lakhs, Expenditure *plus* Rs. 20·24 lakhs. The result is that we expect to have available during 1933–1934 a sum of Rs. 75·42 (say 75) lakhs for expansion of outlay.

11. Taking first the REVENUE side, allowance has been made under the LAND REVENUE head for a decrease of Rs. 7·85 lakhs, representing about one-fourth of the kist in the Trichinopoly district, which, owing to an alteration in the kistbandi, will not accrue until 1934-1935; as against this some increase is expected from re-settlement rates in Godavari, Kistna and Malabar, from receipts from the sale of waste lands and, *per contra*, by smaller refunds. Under EXCISE, we have felt obliged to make a cautious estimate. I have already referred in dealing with the Revised Estimate for 1932-1933 to the remarkable recovery which seems to be taking place in the Excise Revenue (mainly under toddy) but it would be unwise to count upon its maintenance at the same rate in 1933-1934. In estimating the revenue under this head we have proceeded generally on the basis that the figures of the Revised Estimate for 1932-1933 will not be largely exceeded; the increase of Rs. 21 lakhs in 1933—1934, on which we reckon, is due to the expectation that the toddy rentals of the next lease (October 1933 to September 1934) will be the same as those in the current year and hence a full year's increased rentals (Rs. 42 lakhs) will accrue in 1933—1934 as against half that sum accruing in the current year. Other revenue heads, under which improvement is anticipated, are STAMPS (+ 12·90 lakhs), mainly due to increase of Rs. 10·72 lakhs under non-judicial stamps; REGISTRATION (+ 3·30 lakhs) due partly to increased activity, but partly also to levy of fees on kanom leases and on lengthy documents. Improved collection of the Madras Motor Vehicles Tax is expected to give us an increase of Rs. 6·50 lakhs, notwithstanding a decrease in fees for the registration and examination of vehicles; under XVI. INTEREST and XXX. CIVIL WORKS we anticipate increased receipts of Rs. 4·72 lakhs and Rs. 6·87 lakhs respectively, the former owing to the accrual of interest on deposits of Provincial balances with the Government of India, the latter because a larger amount is expected to be drawn from the Road Development Fund.

12. Coming now to EXPENDITURE, the Budget Estimate (Part I) for 1933-1934 contemplates, as compared with that of 1932-1933 a gross increase of Rs. 60·87 lakhs against which we can set off reductions amounting to Rs. 8·22 lakhs, thus arriving at the net figure of Rs. 52·65 lakhs already mentioned, As the House is aware, the Government of India have announced that the 10 per cent pay cut will from 31st March 1933 be reduced to 5 per cent in the case of services 'protected' under the Government of India Act, and of all other 'non-protected' services controlled by them. In the case of the Provincial and Subordinate Services, whose pay it is within the power of the Local Government to regulate, they have given Provincial Governments a free hand. In exercise of the discretion thus given, the Government have decided wholly to remove, as from 1st April 1933, the 10 per cent cut of all establishments whose pay can under the rules be regulated by them. The Estimates take account of these decisions, which, taken together, necessitate an increase in the expenditure (as compared with the Budget Estimate of 1932-1933) of Rs. 32·97 lakhs. To this subject I shall return later. Under 16. IRRIGATION provision is made for a number of irrigation works provided for in previous years' budgets, but of which the execution was in some cases retarded or deferred by the necessity of retrenchment. The provision proposed for these schemes in 1933-1934 is Rs. 18·47 lakhs; their total estimate cost is Rs. 88·10 lakhs. The works include a number of productive schemes of which the most important are the Kistna East bank canal scheme and the improvements to the Pedalanka channel, and the Yenamadurru drainage channel—all relating to the Godavari and Kistna deltas. For the Cauvery delta it is proposed to take up much needed improvements to the advantage of the Vadavar and Ayyavayyanar systems; in the Trichinopoly district provision is made for the scheme for the Cauvery bed-regulator and High Level Channel and for the North Bank Canal, both in the neighbourhood of Kattalat. Increased expenditure accrues under other heads, but I need only mention here the more important Thus, under 22. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION provision is made for the expenses of the General Elections for the reformed legislature (Rs. 8 lakhs); under 31. EDUCATION Rs. 5·59 lakhs is to be given for restoring teaching grants to the amount prior to retrenchment, and money is also provided for additional teaching grants to aided secondary schools and for building and equipment grants overdue. Under 41-B we have a provision of Rs. 6·59 lakhs on account of capital outlay on certain hydro-electric schemes in progress for which it is not proposed to borrow next year. Additional provision for communtations of pensions Rs. 1·25 lakhs) is made under head 45 A and of Rs. 1 lakh under 46, STATIONERY AND PRINTING, which is the net increase resulting from an increase of expenditure of Rs. 3 lakhs on account of the General Elections, partly counterbalanced by reduction in expenditure on this head in other directions.

PART II SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 1933-1934

13. It will be convenient here to advert to the Part II Expenditure proposed in 1933-1934 in the Revenue Account before touching on the Capital and Debt heads. The position is that, after making provision for the removal of the pay cut to the extent above mentioned, we can allot Rs. 75·42 lakhs for Part II SCHEMES. Against this sum, the Finance Committee have recommended as urgently necessary schemes of which the cost in 1933-1934 is Rs. 70·56 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 3·14 lakhs recurring. To this the Government decided to add certain non-recurring schemes which the Finance Committee recommended for acceptance only if funds are available. The amount of these is Rs. 1·09 lakhs.

In addition there are certain schemes for which it was proposed to move in 1932-1933 Supplementary Grants, but which, though accepted by the Finance Committee, could not be moved in the October meeting of the Legislative Council and had to be deferred until the January meeting by which time it was too late to ey to be spent peent the mon iwiex the year. The amount of these is Rs. 1·33 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. ·01 lakh recurring expenditure. These have been added to the Part II Schemes for 1933—1934 and the resulting total is non-recurring Rs. 72·98 lakhs and Rs. 3·15 lakhs recurring. As against this latter figure however we have recurring revenue derivable from the schemes proposed, of Rs. 5·03 lakhs. In 1933—1934, therefore, we shall have available to meet the non-recurring expenditure (Rs. 72·98 lakhs) on Part II Schemes a sum of Rs. 77·30 lakhs. This will allow us to close the year with a Revenue Account suplus of Rs. 4·32 lakhs; of this Rs. 3·46 lakhs is due to the continuance of the pay cut in the case of officers who are not under the rule-making powers of the Madras Government.

It will be seen that we propose to devote practically the whole of the revenue surplus to expanding the activities of Government towards the standard of expenditure which we have been compelled in 1931—1932 and 1932—1933 to contract rigorously owing to the necessities of retrenchment. The ultimate total commitment which these schemes involve is no less than Rs. 108·37 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 4·91 lakhs recurring. That, I think, constitutes a considerable relaxation of the financial curb. It would take too long to attempt an analysis of all these schemes. I may mention a few only, confining myself to the non-recurring expenditure. Thus additional non-recurring grants are proposed amounting to about Rs. 6·02 lakhs for Education (Transferred and Reserved), including educational buildings; to Rs. 5·77 lakhs for Medical and Public Health (including buildings); and to Rs. 15·15 lakhs for Civil Works (grants in aid to local bodies): Agriculture, Veterinary, Industries and Fisheries are given Rs. 1·91 lakhs; for Irrigation, in addition to the substantial sums provided in Part I, there are further grants of Rs. 1·62 lakhs; about Rs. 32 lakhs is proposed for the development of the distribution of electricity, which cannot but be highly beneficial to the populations affected.

CAPITAL AND DEBT HEADS.

14. The consideration of the Captial and Debt heads for 1933—1934 need not detain us long. The total estimate of disbursements under these heads (Part I) is Rs. 81·25 lakhs, distributed as followes:—For Cauvery-Mettur Project Rs. 36·20 lakhs; for the Pykara Head-works completion, the Kattalai Scheme and the Cochin Harbour Rs. 14·51 lakhs; 'other heads,' i.e., for the Cinchona development and loans other than for the Cochin Harbour Rs. 30·54 lakhs—total Rs. 81·25 lakhs. Against this we have an opening balance of Rs. 9·91 lakhs in the Cauvery - Mettur account, and Rs. 12·88 lakhs in the accounts of Kattalai, Pykara and Cochin Works; Rs. 42·33 lakhs will be available from recoveries of loans and the balance (Rs. 16·13 lakhs) will be met from Provincial balances. For the Pykara Power Station scheme Rs. 6·25 lakhs is proposed. Of this scheme all the main items of construction work, except certain minor works on the lower bund of the reservoir and certain office and other buildings, have been completed. The provision proposed is to complete these and to pay in 1933 - 1934 for stores purchased in Europe, for which payment falls due within that year. For the distribution of power in the Coimbatore district and to Palghat Rs. 1·65 lakhs is required; the work is expectad to be completed in the year. The programme also provides for the supply of electricity to Virudhunagar and Dindigul municipalities at a cost during the year of Rs. 2·99 lakhs; loans provided for are, to the Madras Corporation (Rs. 6 lakhs), to other local bodies (Rs. 2·84 lakhs): to cultivators (Rs. 13·92 lakhs); to Industries (Rs. ·50 lakh) and miscellaneous (Rs. 5·67 lakhs) and to Cochin Harbour (Rs. 10 lakhs). The Finance Committee considered further five loan schemes, of which they recommended four at a total cost of Rs. 10·23 lakhs in 1933-1934. These are principally to provide further loans to the Madras Corporation for various purposes (Rs. 4 lakhs), and to local boards and municipalities for capital expenditure on new schemes other than water-supply and drainage (Rs. 6·12 lakhs). The money will be found from Provincial balances.

We propose to take no loans in 1933 - 1934 from the Provincial Loans Fund.

REVENUE CLOSING BALANCE IN THE YEAR 1933—1934

15. The Revenue Closing Balance for 1933 - 1934 after transferring for Capital expenditure a sum of Rs. 26·36 lakhs as already mentioned, is expected to stand at Rs. 271·40 (say Rs. 271) lakhs.

EMERGENCY CUT IN PAY

16. From the above survey of our position as disclosed by the figures, there emerge two matters with which the House will expect me to deal at greater length. The first is the decision of the Government to devote a part of their resources to the restoration of the 10 per cent cut in pay. I may remind the House in this connection of the terms of the pledges which, following those made in Parliament and in the Legislative Assembly, the Government gave. Speaking in the House of Lords on the 3rd December 1931, the then Under Secretary of State pointed out that the Bill conferred on the Secretary of State a temporary power to make a reduction not exceeding 10 per cent for a period not longer than between December 1st of that year (1931) and March 31, 1933—

"If (he proceeded) the financical emergency continues, it will not be possible to continue that cut without coming to Parliament once more to agree to it; but if, as we all hope, the financial situation rapidly improves, there will be nothing to prevent the salaries of these servants being restored before the date of the expiry of the cut."

In the Legislative Assembly the Finance Member used similar language. Referring to the duration of the additional burdens proposed, he said on 29th September 1931—

"It must be clearly explained that there is no intention that they should remain operative beyond March 31st, 1933. They will not be continued beyond that date without further examination of economic conditions; and if economic conditions so required or permitted, we should re-consider them before that date." Having discussed the forecasts of revenue, the Hon'ble Member continued. "If these forecasts are fulfilled, then, even if there is no improvement in the economic position, the Finance Member, when he presents the Budget for 1933—1934, will find himself in possession of a surplus of 5·23 crores, and he will be able to make a substantial easing of the burdens............It is perhaps forecasting events too much to say in what order these reductions should be made. But there are certain principles which we consider must be observed. Relief must come first in restoring the emergency cut in pay and secondly in taking off the surcharge on the income-tax now to be imposed. I think we may predict, with as much certainty as is possible for any such forecasts, that these special impositions will not in any case be extended beyond March 31, 1933."

In their communique on the subject issued on 14 December 1931, the Madras Government stated as follows:—

"In conformity with the announcement made by the Finance Member of the Government of India regarding the duration of the cut, these measures will be of a temporary nature not extending beyond the needs of the present exceptional emergency and will be removed as a first measure of relief as soon as financial conditions improve. There is no present intention that the cut should remain in operation after the 31st March 1933.,'

When I presented to this House the Budget for 1932—1933 on 24th February last year, the position was that we expected to close 1931—1932 with a deficit of Rs. 50¾ lakhs, for 1932—1933 we hoped for a balanced budget, after allocating for Part II Schemes a small some of about Rs. 8¼ lakhs. The objection that our pledges, which I have quoted, precluded us from allowing even this small additional expenditure was met by the argument that, with a trifling revenue surplus of this amount, we should not be justified in assuming such an improvement in our finances as would warrant us in removing the cut. I pointed out that, before we could contemplate dispensing with the temporary expedient of the pay cut, we must realize or have in sight a very much more substantial margin of revenue over expenditure than Rs. 8¾ lakhs, and that, within the period of grace secured by this exceptional measure, we must find means, in accordance with the

(Continued on page 11-B)

FINANCE MEMBER'S BUDGET SPEECH

(Continued from page 11-A)

pledges given, to balance our revenues and expenditure without its aid.

In the opening part of my speech to-day I have indicated what we have done and I venture to claim that it is no inconsiderable achievement, and that, making due allowance for the improvement in revenue, the Madras Government have not paid mere lip-service to the cause of economy: with the assistance of the Retrenchment Committee they tackled early in 1931-1932 the disagreeable task before them, with the result that, whereas the year 1930-1931 closed with a deficit of Rs. 105¾ lakhs, the next year (1931-1932) closed with a small surplus of Rs. 5·41 lakhs of Revenue over Expenditure against an anticipated deficit (Revised Estimate) of Rs. 50·74 lakhs, while in 1932-1933 and in 1933-1934 we anticipate a comfortable surplus of Rs 60 or 70 lakhs in each year. Such being the position, the Government feel that they would not be justified in retaining any longer the temporary expedient of the payout, the removal of which has been declared to have the first claim on their resources and which they are pledged accordingly to dispense with at the earliest opportunity. They have decided to honour their pledges to the extent of their authority to do so. To this they attach the greatest importance, not merely because of their promises, but because, in the interests of the public service, it is essential that the sense of security which is the principal consideration that attracts good men to the service of Government should not be impaired.

REMISSION OF LAND REVENUE.

17. The second matter to which special reference must be made is the proposal that an all-round reduction of Land Revenue by 12½ per cent or 2 annas in the rupee should be given. The actual proposal was that this reduction should be made for one year only. It has been calculated that the total amount of revenue thus sacrified would be about Rs. 74 lakhs, say three-fourths of a crore. A Resolution to this effect was carried by a large majority at the last session of this House, after the house by voting the closure, had refused to hear me on the financial implications of the motion. I suggest that this is regrettable, not because I am optimistic enough to suppose that, on such a matter, anything I might have said would have led to the rejection of the motion, but at least the House would have had presented to it the other side of the shield; and a verdict of the House, arrived at after considering the question in all its aspects, would have carried correspondingly the greater weight. The Government have, however, considered the question raised with the care which its importance demands but have not seen their way to acting upon the Resolution for reasons which I shall briefly indicate. Taking first the financial aspect, I do not deny that, so far as the current year 1932—1933 and the next year 1933—1934 are concerned, it would not be impossible for us to find the requisite sum, which would be charged partly against the Revised Estimate for the current year and partly against the Budget Estimate for its successor; and we might still have been able to find during 1933—1934 a certain amount of money for expansion besides giving relief in respect of the pay cut. But we should certainly not be able to entertain many schemes, which though urgently necessary and desirable in themselves, involve large commitments beyond 1933—1934, and the restoration of the activities of Government in many directions will be inevitably and probably indefinitely retarded. I shall, of course, be told that the Resolution contemplated a remission of 12½ per cent for one fasli only, and that afterwards the 'revenue cut' will be restord. As I regards this 'revenue cut' nothing is to my mind more certain than that it will not be confined to a single fasli. We hope for improvement in the general economic position and there are some signs that that hope is justified. But it is unlikely that recovery will be sudden and sensational or other than slow, and, in that case, human nature being what it is, it is pretty certain that in 12 months' time the insistence of our friends the mirasidars will be no less vigorous for the retention of the 'cut' than it is at present for its introduction. If that should be so, the position will be, as I have indicated, that the Government will be disabled to the extent of three-fourths crore a year for meeting the demands for increased expenditure and for financial aid that are daily pressed upon them, from every side.

At the risk of repetition let me again remind the House of the position we are in. Faced, two years ago, with a heavy deficit and with the prospect of a serious collapse of revenue, we set vigorously to work at the distasteful and thankless business of retrenchment—and how distasteful and thankless no one knows better than myself. In all directions, like every one else in these days of general depression, we had to curtail expenditure, to dispense with luxuries, and to eliminate waste. In the process we have not hesitated in the effort to rehabilitate our finances to cut down even to the bone and to reduce beneficent expenditure in many directions, which we should normally have been reluctant to curtail. In our principal object, I believe we have succeeded. It was never my intention nor the intentinn of the Government that this reduction in the 'standard of living' of the State—if I may so put it—should be indefinitely prolonged. But, if the Government are now to give up Rs. 75 lakhs a year out of the Land Revenue, the single stable source of revenue they possess, the proces of recovery cannot but be retarded, and to a proportionate degree the demands on Government from other directions, for Education (for instance), for measures of medical relief, public health, for the uplift of the backward and depressed classses and various other claims, must rest unsatisfied.

Add to this that the financial prospect of the next year or two is full of uncertainty. We do not know, for instance, how we shall stand as the result of the Reformed Constitution, or the introduction of Federation. It seems not improbable that in certain directions the cost of administration may be increased rather than diminished: it is as yet uncertain whether some system of Provincial Contributions may not be imposed upon us. It has also to be remembered that we have to contemplate the possibility of other vicissitudes of a more familiar kind, that may adversely affect our revenues and might, when taken in conjunction with a largely reduced Land Revenue, disable the Government possibly for a considerable period from pursuing any 'nation-building' schemes whatever, substitutiug stagnation or even retrogression for development and progress.

I have attempted, in what has just been said, to put before the House an aspect of the matter which was not perhaps sufficiently present to the minds of many members who voted for the Resolution. I am far from saying that, under no conceivable circumstances is relief to the payer of Land Revenne thinkable. The Government realise that the decline of prices of agricultural produce has adversely affected, in different degree, those who depend on the land for their living or their income, but they are unable to accept the present demand which is one for an all-round reduction of Land Revenue regardless of the circumstances and conditions which vary from district to district. As the Hon'ble the Revenue Member told the House during the recent debate, the Government have been watching the position with full attention; the existing system of Land Revenue administration is sufficiently flexible to enable them, should occasion require, to take such steps as they may be convinced are necessary, without adopting the expedient which is now pressed upon them. The demand has its origin among the mirasidars of the Tanjore district. The Government cannot be accused of neglecting the interests of that district, as the expenditure of over Rs. 6 crores on the Cauvery-Mettur Project witnesses. In the present Budget, provision is made for several other important irrigation schemes for their benefit. Their difficulties have recently formed the subject of a special investigation by an officer of the Agricultural department deputed for the purpose, whose report is now under consideration. I am unable now to say what conclusions will be reached, but one point that appears to emerge is that the particular kind of rice which has long been their principal product has ceased to command its old markets, in Ceylon and elsewhere, in competition with rice from Burma and from the northern districts of the Presidency. If that is so, it may well prove that the solution of their troubles will in part be found in adapting the agricultural practice of the district to the changed conditions, so as to substitute the growth of products which can commmand a better market in lieu of those which do not. Connected questions also arise; such as the grievances in respect of railway freight' the question of re-opening certain minor ports and of improving by other means if possible the marketting facilities of the district. I can assure the House that these important matters will receive the close and early attention of the Government.

CONCLUSION.

18. I do not think I need detain the house longer with further observations on the estimates which I now commend for their acceptance.

I would beg permission, before concluding, to express my thanks to the Members of the House who have served on the Finance and Public Accounts Committees for the valuable assistance and advice they have afforded. Lastly I have to express once again my own and the Government's cordial appreciation of the devotion and care which the Financial Secretary Mr. Hood, and the officers and staff of the department have brought to the discharge of their duties, not in connection with the Budget only but throughout the year. They have continued to maintain in all respects the high standard of efficient financial administration for which the Government of this Province has been noted and to which we owe largely our present relatively favourable financial position.

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ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

A CASE IN BOMBAY

(Associated Press)

Bombay, Feb. 25

Stephen Fernandez who was detained in the docks on arrival by a Goa boat some weeks ago for alleged illegal possession of firearms was today placed before the Chief Presidency Magistrate along with Girdar Singh and Radhakrishnan who were arrested in Delhi along with Ramachandra Anand and Balkrishna Bikaqan Sharma who were arrested along with Balmak and Bikaran Sharma at Gwalior. They are charged with conspiracy to commit house breaking, robberies, dacoities and for illegal possession of firearms. Opening the case the Police Prosecutor alleged that the five accused had joined conspiracy to bring in arms and ammunitions illegally from Portuguese Goa. The Police Prosecutor read out the various letters and extracts from note books to show that an attempt had been made to import arms from Hyderabad. He also read instructions from note books for the use of firearms. He detailed the various parts alleged to have been assigned to each accused. Fernandez, said the Prosecutor, used to import arms from Goa and was arrested in Bombay with four revolvers in his possession. The Prosecutor stated that Ramachandra Anand was undergoing training in a motor school in Delhi as part of the campaign.

PUNJAB COUNCIL

FINANCE MEMBER PRESENTS BUDGET

(Associated Press)

Lahore, 25 Feb,

In his speech introducing the Budget estimates the finance Member announced that the Local Government had decided to follow the Government of India and majority of Local Government in respect of pay cut and to apply five percent cut to all provincial and subordinate services to which ten percent was at present applied accompanied by the withdrawal of the exemption from surcharge on income-tax and super, tax as was done hitherto. The revenue account for the year ending March 1933 was expected to close with a balance of Rs. 25 lakhs and taking all accounts together the year was expected to close with a balance of Rs. 53-12 lakhs. The Finance Member referred to the Hydro Electric Project and said that the total expenditure for this project up to the end of the year was 5-14 crores, 69 lakhs having been provided in this connection in the coming year's Budget. As regards retrenchment Sir Henry said that 65 percent of the retrenchments proposed by the Retrenchment committee were given effect to including Rs. 160 lakhs as revenue account alone. As for the future he appealed for efforts to produce a position of stability which was essential before the introduction of reforms in order to give the new administration a fair chance.

PRIME MINISTER OF ALWAR

(Associated Press)

New Delhi, Feb. 25.

According to the present arrangement Mr. F. V. Wylie will leave London on the 3rd March and arrive in Bombay on the 16th. It is expected he will join his appointment as Prime Minister and Revenue Minister at Alwar about the 20th March.

"If you try to kiss me, I shall scream!"
"Not with all these people about, surely?"
"Let's find a quieter spot, then!"

MURDEROUS GANG IN LAHORE

13 ARRESTS MADE

Lahore Feb. 25.

The Special Police which is engaged in rounding up members of the gang believed to be concerned in various murderous dacoities and bomb explosions including the Kanskanan Sahib Nandev Sudarn and Rajitsingh sanad outrages, arrested one more person Santsosing from a village in Amritsar District. This brings the total number of arrests in this connection to thirteen.

DELHI MUNICIPALITY

WOMEN FRANCHISE SANCTIONED

(Associated Press)

New Delhi, Feb. 25,

It is understood that the Chief Commissioner, Delhi has sanctioned female franchise for the Delhi Municipality by putting women on the same footing as men both as regards voting and contenting sesäts.

SIR MD. IQBAL

(Associated Press)

Lahore (Feb. 25)

Sir Mohamed Iqbal, delegate to the Third Round Table Conference, arrived this morning by the Frontier Mail and was welcomed at the Railway Station by a number of his friends and admirers. He was presented with an address of welcome by the Jammiati Islam in which his services to Islam were eulogised.

PATNA HIGH COURT

(Associated Press)

New Delhi Feb. 25.

A Communique says:—The Governor-General in Council has appointed Justice C. S. Agarwala at present acting as Judge, Patna High Court, to act as Additional Judge at that Court with effect from 3rd March 1933 until the commencement of the High Court vacation.

EX-SPANISH KING IN MADRAS

Madras, Feb. 26

Ex-King Alfonso arrived in Madras yesterday morning by the Indo Ceylon boat mail accompanied by his 3rd son Don Juan and the Duke of Miranda who has been the King's secretary for over a period of 25 years and who still continues to serve his master faithfully, although he could have effected a compromise with the New Republican Administration of Spain and remained in his native country with comfort and happiness.

The Ex-King and the party were received at the Egmore Station by Lt., Col., S. E. L. Baddeley. Military Secretary to His Excellancy and by the Spanish Priest in Madras.

The Ex-King and party will be the guests of his Excellency during their sojourn in Madras.

Lost

TOMPKINS was passigg the offertory bag in church when an old lady hurried in. She walked quickly down the aisle, stopped by Tompkins, dropped a penny in the bag, and moved to a seat.

The bagbearer was at the last pew when the old lady came hustling back again. She snatched a penny from the bag, and was passing out of the church door when Tompkins grabbed her arm.

"I say," he muttered, "why in the name of goodness do you come in here, drop a penny in the bag, and then take it out again and leave?"

The old lady shook him off indignantly.

"I'm in the wrong church," she said.

* * * *

Freezing

Two guests who had dined not wisely but too well at a party given by a master of foxhounds wandered into their host's garden and stumbled on to his forcing frames.

"Seems to me," said one of them, as the glass cracked beneath his feet, "there won't be any—hic—hunting to-morrow."

WHY NOT BE A REAL KING?

AN OPEN LETTER TO KING FUAD

Dear Fuad —Grave questions will shortly have to be discussed between your Government and ours. Are we to leave Egypt altogether? You say so.

I am writing this so near to your palace in Cairo that I might as well deliver it by hand, or call and utter my opinions, very respectfully, by word of mouth, except that I am told you do not like the Press. For I have just returned to your capital after visiting the tombs of the great Kings of Egypt, your predecessors in the dim semi-historic past.

Each of them, carved in stone, contains the proud record of their great achievements. As most of them wrote their own obituary notices, I may be pardoned if I read them with a certain amount of cynical incredulity.

It is all very well to be told about the "Great" Rameses, but, so far as I can see, he did not design his own temple, dig his own tomb, paint one of the pictures on the walls or carve one of the images. He just dragooned into service, as did all the other Pharaohs, thousands of servile slaves, and, with whip and the torture, made them glorify his majesty, and immortalise his pomp and his power, writes Hannen Swaffer in "John Bull"

* * * *

All that led me to wonder, my dear Fuad, what would be inscribed on your tomb, if it were still the fashion to make a pictorial record of an Egyptian King's life even before they burried him.

You were the first King of modern Egypt. With the British consent, although they were forced, of course, to grant your country independence, you were chosen as Sultan when the prince first elected said he preferred a pleasant life in Europe. Then, ten years ago, you became "King Fuad I," the founder of a new dynasty.

And, with reservations, the British "got out," True it is that they have 10,000 troops in your country, and that they remain to guard the Suez Cannal, and—so they say—to protect the many foreigners who, in your country, do most of the trade and are those who stand for nearly all the progress.

Well, I should put on your tomb—as I cannot draw or carve or paint, I should have to write it—that, so far, you have been a rather amateurish patron of the arts and sciences, for societies bob up under your patronage and then do not do much.

You may not know it but that is how men talk of you.

So I find money being wasted on schemes that seem doomed to failure, while everywhere in Egypt I see the direst poverty and a condition that, from the English point of view, would be one of the deepest shame had we during our fifty years in your country done nothing to alleviate it.

I see good trams in Cairo and good hotels, fine roads and houses, for the rich, which might belong to Monte Carlo or the best part of Berlin. I find a racecourse in Cairo and another near by, in Heliopolis, which is a modern wonder, telephones—yes, and an Opera House!

But millions and millions of people working on the land earn at the most five pence a day. They barely subsist on the meanest food. Their mud huts have no sanitation of any kind. Disease wipes them out.

* * * *

And only a small fraction of your subjects can read or write, while the plight of the womanhood of your land is deplorable in the extreme.

"If we educate the people, they will flock to the towns," say your ruling classes. "Egypt has no unemployment problem. Education would create one."

I realise, when I go round, how true it is that there is no magic remedy for disease and poverty and crime, but that, gradually, succeeding generations have to improve, each one on the other.

Besides, your people have to learn how to walk before they can run. And your college graduates, taught by books and not by experience, are unfit for responsibility.

Your officials have little or no sense of what we would call a public spirit.

There were recently reported, as one year's "justice" 3,000 cases of flogging and torturing in police.stations or by minor officials. That must be stopped.

You say you are entitled to the Soudan. Would flogging start there, if the British got out?

Six times in the last two years bombs have been found in public places. Whether enraged citizens put them there, or whether, as some naughty people say, some of them were fakes, this is not the "settled government" which is a necessary preliminary to our complete withdrawal.

I find the veil disappearing. The fez, abolished in Turkey, where you can see the Moslem priests calling the faithful to prayer in bowler hats and trousers, is still generally worn in your country.

You have kept the Tutankhamen treasures in Egypt, where, in the Cario museum, they dazzle and bewilder with their incomparable beauty. You were right in doing this. The history of Egypt belongs to itself.

* * * *

But it was Lord Cromer, you know, who stopped the robberies from the tombs of the Pharaohs. It was the French and the British who taught Egypt a proper pride in her heritage. She had looted, wholesale, the treasures of the past and destroyed monuments of indescribable grandeur in order to make walls and houses—yes, and, in one case at least, to build a sugar factory.

But Egypt's real treasures are the potentialities of her population.

Millions of your subjects are, virtually, as much enslaved as they were in the time of the "Great" Rameses.

Free them of the curse of poverty by means of education! Cleanse their hovels! Start a new era, not of extravagance, but of enlightenmento Then you will go down to history as a great king who, having learnt from his British tutors, set an example to all kings who would seek to make their country free.

FRENCH RAILWAYS

DEFICIT OF 9,000 MILLION FRANCS

London (By mail)

The difficulties confronting the French railways at the present time were described at a joint meeting in London of the Institute of Transport and the British section of the Societe des Ingenieurs Civils de France by M. Marcel Dupuis of the Cie. du Chemin de fer du Nord.

M. DUPUIS said that since 1927, and particularly in 1930, there had been a continued deficit on the French railways, and this had now reached the figure of 9,000,000,000f. The operating methods of the railways nevertheless had improved continually since the War. From 1920 to 1930 expenditure had been reduced by 11 per cent, gold value, and last year further economies were effected which resulted in total savings amounting to over 600,000,000f. The French railways had not increased their rates as was really necessary, for the reason that at the time of the stabilization of the franc a heavy new tax was placed on railway passengers in addition to those taxes which the railways themselves paid direct. Before the War the Government tax on passengers fare was 12 per cent.; it was now 32·5 per cent. There was no tax on goods before the War, but there was one today averaging 7 per cent. These taxes were included in the charges paid by the public, who could not be expected to pay more.

The French railways, like other railways the world over, were passing through a critical period. Water transport was endeavouring to take away the heavy and cumbersome traffic of little value. Road transport had, by a vigorous offensive, secured the most remunerative passenger and light merchandise traffic. Now air transport was rapidly developing and was attacking passenger traffic where speed is desired and valuable consignments which were required to be conveyed over long distances. To compete against this the railways were sufficiently equipped, provided that their managements were allowed to utilize the formidable weapon which 100 years of unceasing effort on the part of their administrators and engineers had succeeded in establishing. In opinion of French railwaymen it was necessary to make radical technical alterations, not only with regard to the rolling stock utilized, but also its mode of utilization. Above all, it was imperative that technical changes should be made possible by freeing the railways from the administrative restrictions which were weighing far too heavily upon them.

In the course of his paper M. Dupuis spoke of the progress made in the introduction of light rail motor-trains in place of heavy steam trains. All French railways, he said, were at the moment investigating the question of automotrices, and certain officials considered that by using these vehicles the railways would regain their supremacy over road transport.

"SOME of the mountains of China," he quoted from his book, "have never been penetrated by man."

"Yes," said his wife, "I remember the mountains of China I found in the kitchen when I left you alone in the house for a week."

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A WRECK IN THE HAMBLE

NINTH OR NINETEENTH CENTURY?

London (By Mail)

At a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, held in Burlington House Mr. G. S. Laird Clowes, of the Science Museum, discussed the wreck of an old ship lying in the Hamble River. According to local tradition, he said, the remains were those of a Danish ship destroyed by King Alfred in a battle against the Danish invaders about A.D. 897, and this view had been accepted by the Victoria County History. From an examination, however, of the details of construction, and in particular of the method of framing employed, Mr. Laird Clowes said he had come to the conclusion that, despite the resemblance in outline which the wreck bore to a Danish or Viking vessel, it could not be of any great age. He demonstrated from lantern slides his contention that its construction was similar to that of a large sailing ship of the mid-nineteenth century, though only a keel and the lowest part of the ribs now remained, and even this was visible only at dead low water. The previous surmises and traditions were no doubt due to the presence of a ship so large as 150ft. in length so far up the narrow channel of the Hamble River.

In a paper on "Two Medieval Love Songs," Mr. John Saltmarsh discussed the discoveries made in the Record Office and at King's College of Songs upon the back of old official documents.

Asking for Trouble

"MY dear," remarked Mrs. Wiggs at the break-fast-table one morning, "Dr. Lewis says that hot water will cure all diseases."

"He does—does he?" said Mr. Wiggs.

"Yes; and persons who use the treatment ought never to be ill."

"I don't believe it."

"Why?"

"You know how I am always ill!"

"But you've never tried the hot-water cure."

"What? Never tried it?" ejaculated Mr. Wiggs, as he sidled towards the door; "why, I've been in hot water ever since I married you!"

He got outside just in time to miss a teacup fired at him as a parting salute.

* * * *

She was anxious to learn the latest news about her neighbour's accident, and turning towards her husband, who was immersed in the evening paper, she said: "Henry, can you see anything in the paper about Mr. Jones running over his mother-in-law?"

"Not yet," replied Mr. Peck. "I haven't come to the sporting news?"

NEWSPAPERS IN ENGLAND

READING HABIT GROWING

London (By Mail.)

The percentage of the people in Britian who read newspapers is probably larger than that of newspaper readers in any other country in the world. There are three English dailies which have a circulation of over a million and a half each and which are engaged in an intensive circulation-raising campaign. The "Daily Mail" still retains the lead and claims the world's largest circulation. Its daily net sales in December were 1,735,652. Its nearest rival is the "Daily Press" whose sales averaged 1,674,156, these two have a formidable rival in the "Daily Herald" which came late in the Competitive field, but which in a short time has achieved phenomenal popularity. Its circulation has been going up by leaps and boudds. The December figures show that it is now only 100,652 behind the "Daily Mail" and 34,703 behind the 'Express.' During 1933 it increased its circulation by 250,000 and it is not improbable that during 1934 it may surpass one or both of its rivals. Another English daily with a large circulation is the "News Chronicle" whose net sales averaged 1,305,901 daily in 1932. The average daily net sales of the "Times" were 178,524 in 1932. There are three or four weeklies whose circulation exceeds one million, that of the "News of the World" being nearly three millions. This paper recently announced that it uses each week 112 tons of metal, casts more than 3,000 plates, prints on 78 giant, rotary presses, and absorbs 8,400 miles of paper, the product of 10,000 trees.

The number of newspaper readers in India is so small that we do not think that the most widely circulated paper has net sales exceeding 50,000. All the newspapers of India put together probably consume less paper than one of the popular English dailies. Poverty and illiteracy of the masses are the two main causes of the small circulation of papers in this country.

In Japan the daily volume of circulation of news is estimated at 5 million copies, that is, one per eleven to twelve people read newspapers. The two papers with the largest circulation, approximately 700,000 each, are 'Osaka Asahi' and the 'Osaka Manichi'. The number of dailies in Japan is little over 1,200. . . There are more than 600 weeklies—'Leader.'

Not in Order

"GEORGE, you may bring me two fried eggs, some ham, a pot of coffee, and some rolls," said a man to the waiter.

"Yes, sir."

His companion said, "You may bring me the same. No, wait a minute; eliminate the eggs."

"Yes, sir."

In a moment the waiter returned.

"Excuse me, sir, but what did you say about them eggs?"

"I merely told you to eliminate them."

"Yes, sir." And he hurried away to the kitchen.

In two minutes he came back once more, leaned confidentially and penitently over the table, and said: "We had a bad accident this morning, sir, and the liminator got busted off, right at the handle. Will you take them fried, same as this gentleman?"

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